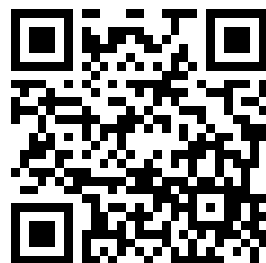

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Visits of inspection made by officials of U.S. embassy to various
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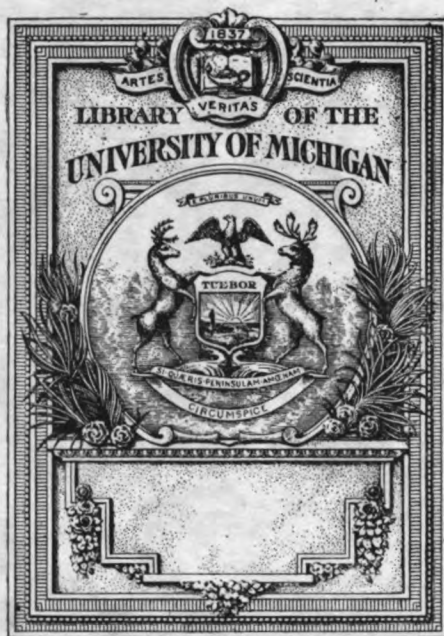
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REPORTS

OF



VISITS OF INSPECTION MADE BY OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY

TO

VARIOUS INTERNMENT CAMPS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September 1916.*

LONDON :

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Reports of Visits of Inspection made by Officials of the
United States Embassy to various Internment Camps
in the United Kingdom.

No. 1.

*Mr. Page, United States Ambassador at London, to Sir Edward Grey.—
(Received March 11.)*

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report, covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Leigh, Lancashire, on the 21st February, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the Staff of the German Division of this Embassy.

American Embassy, London, March 10, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
March 7, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Leigh, Lancashire, on the 21st February, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Western District and the commandant is Colonel H. Blagrove, C.B.

Prisoners.—The total number of prisoners at this camp on the day of my visit was 1,770, all of whom are German, comprising 1,732 military prisoners and 38 naval prisoners.

Committees.—The following committees have been formed by the prisoners to take charge of these various departments: a committee on sports, a committee on education, a canteen committee, a committee on carving classes, and a committee on the Y.M.C.A.

The prisoners are much interested in wood-carving, and a special committee has been formed to see what can be done to furnish prisoners with opportunities of carrying out this work on a larger scale than is now being done.

Sleeping Accommodation.—There are six dormitories, well-ventilated, well-warmed, and well-lighted. Each prisoner has a camp bed, which is raised about 18 inches from the floor. Each prisoner has also three blankets, but this allowance can be raised to four if necessary.

The dormitories were found to be very neat and clean. There was enough room between the beds to prevent crowding, and everything was in excellent condition.

Each dormitory is presided over by a Feldwebel, and each company in the dormitory is in the charge of an under-officer.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There are twenty shower baths in this camp with running hot and cold water, eighty-three latrines with automatic flushing every fifteen minutes, three urinals, sixty-three buckets, and four ablution sheds for washing, with eight taps each. All these were carefully examined and found very neat and clean and absolutely odourless.

Infirmary.—There is one doctor in charge of the hospital in the camp, who is assisted by four English and two German attendants.

The hospital was found neat and clean. There is a new isolation ward and kitchen in process of building, which will add much to the comfort of the hospital. A list of patients with their various diseases is hereto annexed (Exhibit A).*

* Sent to Berlin.

This is a healthy camp, the average of illness being less than 1 per cent.

The doctor seemed an exceptionally well-equipped man and an expert dietist.

Kitchen.—The kitchen is in charge of a Feldwebel, who is assisted by thirty cooks, all of whom are German. A copy of the rations is hereto annexed (Exhibit B).*

I tasted the soup, which was being prepared, and the bread, both of which were excellent.

There were some complaints among the prisoners about the monotony of the diet, especially the scarcity of fresh vegetables, which, of course, at this season of the year, are difficult to obtain. Everything in the kitchen was very clean and neat.

Work.—The prisoners were engaged in wood-carving, tailoring, shoemaking, bookbinding, &c. There are also education classes, where they may study languages, which were well attended. In the summer each man has a garden where he may raise his flowers. The men receive pay for work, which is done for the good of the prisoners in the camp, such as repairs to clothing, boots, &c. An exception to this, however, is that the Feldwebel, who assist in maintaining the discipline of the camp, receive no pay of any kind for their services.

Exercise.—The prisoners have two fields, in which to exercise, of two to three acres each. One is a cinder field and the other a grass field. Three times a week they are obliged to drill and do Swedish exercises on the cinder field. This keeps the men in excellent condition.

In their sports they have a game called "Fistball," football, a sort of baseball, and in summer, a tank in which they may swim.

Wants by Camp.—A previous complaint in this camp had been made that the rooms were not sufficiently heated, but since then a large boiler, in process of installation for some time, has been put in use, thereby removing all cause for complaint of lack of heat.

The prisoners also complained that they were shut up in their dormitories from 4:30 P.M. until morning. However, since the days have grown longer this time has been decreased, and, with the advent of summer, will be considerably shortened.

The chief complaints at present are of two kinds: complaints about the post, and claims for release as members of the Red Cross.

In regard to the post the men objected to having their parcels opened, and, as they thought, not carefully treated, and to having the chests, sent them from home, withheld. The chests have been withheld by a War Office order, and in regard to the opening of the post arrangements have been made that this shall now be overseen by one of the German prisoners, who shall be present each day to see how the parcels are received, and how they are turned over to those who are entitled to have them.

With reference to the prisoners who claim release on account of being members of the Red Cross, I understand that a representative of the War Office visits the camp from time to time, who takes up all such cases and examines their credentials. Also those prisoners who claim right of repatriation on account of their membership in the Red Cross have already appealed to this Embassy, and their cases have been submitted to the War Office.

A statement of complaints of the prisoners at this camp had been made, and these complaints were answered by the commandant as follows:—

1. *Accommodation and Confinement.*—That 574 cubic feet was allowed to each man, and that the hours during which the prisoners are shut up in the dormitories vary from 14½ hours in winter to 9½ hours in summer. "Lock-up" is always fixed as late as is compatible with the safety of the camp to enable the prisoners to get as much fresh air and exercise as possible.

2. *Urine Tubs.*—That ten large urine tubs are allowed per 100 men. These pails can be emptied as often as required and at any time during the night; they are carefully cleaned with disinfectant every morning and placed during the day in the open air. Double sentries are posted at the outer doors of the dormitories with a view to facilitating access to the latrines at any hour of the night, and the emptying of the urine pails.

3. *Heating.*—That the steam heating is never cut off during the night, and has only been occasionally interrupted during the day for a short period when some repair to the boilers was absolutely necessary.

That latterly a very large "Lancashire boiler" has been installed, at an expense to the Government of some hundreds of pounds, for the sole purpose of perfecting the heating arrangements and providing a good supply of hot water for baths, &c.

* Sent to Berlin.

4. *Ventilation*.—That there are 210 ventilators in the three dormitories which face south and not north, as stated. That a few months ago, when some of the prisoners complained that they suffered from draughts from these ventilators, half of them were covered up for the winter months.

There are, in addition, twelve special "shaft" ventilators, and with reference to the complaint about foul air it has been found, at the daily inspection of the rooms, that they were stuffed up with old rags, &c., by the prisoners themselves.

5. *Lighting*.—That in the building there are seventy-five lamps, seventy of 100-candle power (not 30-candle power, as stated), and five of 50-candle power. That these are fed by full current 220 volts supplied from the Leigh Corporation Electric Generating Station, and that for each 200 men there are at least twelve lamps and not eight, as stated.

6. *Stone Floors*.—That the floors consist of concrete blocks, but that the health of the prisoners is excellent is proved by the fact that up to the end of January the number in hospital averaged well under 1 per cent., and that it is now, at probably the most trying time of the year, just over 1 per cent.

7. *The Hospital*.—The commandant states that he visits the hospital daily, and has never received a single complaint. That the medical officer in charge takes the greatest pains to examine carefully every prisoner who reports sick, and that three of them, at his own request, have been sent to hospital in Manchester for special treatment at various times.

8. *Bath-Houses and Hot-Water Supply*.—That there are two bath-houses. That three brass taps and two "roses" belonging to the shower baths provided for the prisoners in No. 1 compound were found to have been wrenched off, and that this bath house was closed from Sunday to Wednesday, inclusive, till the damage could be made good, but that the other bath-house was never closed. That the ablution sheds were in full use. That the hot-water supply has never been cut off, except when temporary repairs were required to the boilers, and that has rarely happened.

9. *Nourishment*.—That every care is taken with regard to the feeding of the prisoners. A statement, drawn out by the Adjutant and Quartermaster, Lieutenant D. Ashby, shows clearly the quantity and quality of the food supplied to them (Exhibit C).^{*} That in addition to the Government ration extra messing is supplied to the men from their own canteen fund to the extent of about 30*l.* per month.

10. *Treatment*.—(a.) That the prisoners are treated with every consideration, subject to the maintenance of good order and discipline. As regards "occupation," that the difficulty is to find employment for them sufficient to keep them in good health. That they had plenty of time to themselves is proved by the syllabus attached (Exhibit D),^{*} which was drawn out by their own Education Committee. They also have concerts or theatricals every week, and sometimes "lantern lectures" in addition.

11. *Distribution of Bread in Two Rations*.—That the bread is distributed in two rations for the prisoners' own benefit, and not "to increase discipline," since, if it is all issued in the morning, a quantity of it gets stale by the evening.

12. *Postal Matters*.—That the mail bags are delivered at the main gate of the camp by the postal authorities, and are brought to the camp post-office by a party of prisoners, accompanied by one of their own non-commissioned officers.

13. *Control of Parcels*.—That one of the German postal staff is always present during the whole time the parcels are being opened.

14. *Newspapers and Correspondence*.—That general stoppage of newspapers was ordered by the General Officer Commanding in Chief on account of several attempts to escape on the part of certain prisoners in May and June 1915, but that no general stoppage of correspondence has ever been imposed. That stoppage of correspondence in individual cases has necessarily been ordered when occasion arose.

15. *Captains*.—That there are six Feldwebels in charge of the dormitories, designated as "duty Feldwebels," but they receive no pay. They were given a separate accommodation in the interest of discipline, which is provided by a match-boarded cubicle, 25 feet by 12 feet, in the "A" dormitory. That a small piece of linoleum, three chairs, and some canvas was provided by the "Society for the Assistance of Prisoners of War," of which Dr. Markel is secretary. That the charges made against these six Feldwebels have no foundation, and are purely malicious. That they are all of them fine soldiers and a capable hard-working set of men, and are of great assistance for the maintenance of cleanliness and good order. That there has always existed (since they were first interned) considerable ill-feeling towards the duty Feldwebels, on the

^{*} Sent to Berlin.

part of some of the Offizierstellvertreter, who, before being captured, may have held the position of acting officers, and friction ensues between them.

Serious allegations against the six duty Feldwebels of hardship towards their men were made by three of the Offizierstellvertreter, which were carefully enquired into by the commandant on the 17th November, 1915. It was clearly proved that there was no foundation for these charges, and it appeared to be another instance of the jealousy which has always existed on the part of the Offizierstellvertreter towards the duty Feldwebels.

16. *Punishments.*—(b.) That no case is ever investigated by the commandant unless the interpreter is present; that this is an invariable rule, though many of the prisoners speak and understand English quite well. Every prisoner has a right to lay a complaint before the commandant in person, and this has been notified more than once in German orders. That when they do so the interpreter is invariably present.

17. *Attendance of Divine Service.*—With regard to attending services on Sundays, only two complaints had come to the notice of the commandant, one from a man who claimed to be an Atheist, and the second from a prisoner who objected to the presence of a guard during the service. That an order was issued as long ago as July last, under which a prisoner who objects to attending divine service can be otherwise employed. That the service consists of four prayers in English, the Lord's Prayer, a blessing, and three hymns in German. Duration about fifteen minutes.

Observations.—This camp seemed to me to be noteworthy on account of its great neatness and cleanliness, and on account of the general good health of the men consequent thereon, and also on their regular exercise in the open air.

It is conducted on strict military principles, but the men, being soldiers, seem to understand this. They are under the charge of their own Feldwebel, who are trusted by the commandant, and who have an excellent influence over the men under them.

There is a small theatre in the camp, where plays and concerts are given from time to time, and where the band, formed by the prisoners, may play.

There were five men in cells at the time of my visit, but the only serious case was a man who had struck his provost-sergeant twice, and had been given fourteen days for each attack. The cells were carefully inspected and were found to be neat, warm, and dry.

The men seemed anxious to do some agricultural work, and it is hoped that they may be given an opportunity for this.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

No. 2.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received March 16.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the camp for interned enemy aliens at Cornwallis Road, Upper Holloway, London, N., on the 1st March, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the Staff of the German Division of this Embassy.

American Embassy, London, March 15, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
March 13, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the camp for interned enemy aliens at Cornwallis Road, Upper Holloway, London, N., on the 1st March, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of His Majesty's Home Office and the commandant is Major Sir Frederick Halliday, M.V.O., C.I.E.

Prisoners.—There were 714 prisoners in the camp on the day of my visit, of whom 709 were German and 5 Austrian.

Committees.—The entire camp is under the control of a captain committee, chosen by the prisoners, which is composed of nineteen representatives and a head captain, elected by them. There is also a canteen committee, a kitchen committee, a workshop committee, a bedroom committee, a wages committee, and a relief committee. These are all sub-committees, who report to the captain committee. Thus the entire camp is run by the prisoners themselves.

Sleeping Accommodations.—The sleeping accommodations are the same as those described in the last report. They were inspected and found neat and clean, well-aired, well-warmed, and well-lighted.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There has been no change in the sanitary arrangements since they were last inspected. They were examined and were found to be neat and clean.

Infirmary.—There is no regular infirmary in this camp, but there are two good rooms set apart for those who are slightly ill, containing eleven beds in all. There were nine patients in these rooms suffering from slight troubles, chiefly dyspepsia and colds.

A doctor visits them twice a day and there are two German attendants. All the serious cases are sent to the German Hospital at Dalston.

Kitchens.—There is one chef and an assistant, four carvers, six potato peelers, twelve washers-up, six bakers, and two turnspits, all of whom are German.

The kitchen and bakeshop were carefully inspected and found very neat and clean.

The food is of an excellent quality. The diet for the week ending the 25th February, 1916, is hereto attached. (Exhibit A.)*

There has been improvements made in the kitchen lately, among other things a mincing-machine has been installed, which prepares the Hamburg steaks, of which the prisoners are so fond.

There is also a canteen, which is very well run, from which the prisoners may buy extras.

Work.—No prisoners are compelled to work, but those who wish to do so may find employment, for which they receive wages. There are 600 men at work, 500 of whom receive wages, amounting in some cases to 15s. a week.

They were engaged in tailoring, shoemaking, making international postal bags, carpentering, and wood-carving. There are also waiters, hair-dressers, men who clean and look after the general management of the camp, musicians, painters, lecturers, and teachers.

The prisoners have classes, where they study languages, shorthand, &c.

There are many good musicians in the camp, and there is excellent music, both vocal and instrumental.

Exercise.—The prisoners have about $3\frac{1}{4}$ acres of ground, where they may walk, also a skittles lane, gymnasium, and a billiard-room with three tables.

Wants by Camp.—There were no complaints of any kind from the prisoners. I had an opportunity to talk with them privately, and the only things about which they spoke were the question of their wives' support and the carrying on of their businesses. They were, one and all, enthusiastic about the camp and management.

Observations.—There seems to be no criticism to be made of this camp, and the fact that the only guard consists of a sergeant and four policemen, and of there having been no attempts to escape, shows that the prisoners appreciate their comfort and good treatment here.

A steam laundry has been installed since the last visit of inspection was made to the camp.

They are able to see their wives and children about once a week, a certain number of visitors being allowed each day.

There is a church, where they have Catholic, Church of England, and Non-conformist services. A Lutheran service is held in German by Pastor Goehling on the first Sunday in each month. Bishop Bury has also visited the camp.

There are no cells at this camp, as none have been needed.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

No. 3.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 1.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Shrewsbury, Shropshire, on the 18th March, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the Staff of the German Division of this Embassy.

American Embassy, London, March 31, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 3.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
March 27, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Shrewsbury, Shropshire, on the 18th March, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Western District, and the commandant is Major H. Ducat Hammersley.

Prisoners.—All the 464 prisoners in this camp are German, comprising 411 military prisoners, 46 naval prisoners, and 7 civilians.

Committees.—There was a workshop committee, a can een committee, an educational committee, and a recreation committee, all of which were formed and run by the prisoners themselves.

Sleeping Accommodations.—The only change in the sleeping accommodations since the last visit was that new concrete floors have been laid down in the rooms. Everything was examined and found neat, clean, well-lighted, well-ventilated, and well-warmed. The beds are the regulation army pattern.

Sanitary Arrangements.—Since the last visit twenty-two water closets, self-flushing, six hot and cold water showers, a drying room, and an ablution shed have been installed. These were all examined and found neat, clean, and odourless.

Infirmary.—There was one doctor and three British attendants. Eight patients were in the wards on the day of my visit, six of whom were suffering from wounds, one from indigestion, and one case of kidney trouble.

There was a surgery and an isolation ward, and there are two hospital latrines. Everything was found neat and clean and in good condition. The patients seemed to be recovering and were in good spirits.

Kitchen.—There was one kitchen and a head cook with seven helpers, all of whom were German. A copy of the rations is hereto annexed. (Exhibit A.)*

Everything was found neat and clean and in good condition.

Work.—The prisoners were engaged in tailoring, carpentering, and in making articles for sale by the "Emergency Committee for the Assistance of Germans, Austrians, and Hungarians in Distress," such as boxes, chessmen, &c. They are also undertaking bootmaking and repairs.

There are good opportunities for classes, and they have a piano, on which they were playing during my visit.

Exercise.—The prisoners are allowed to have route marches four days a week, taking it in turns by companies—two companies going each day.

They have a field 90 yards square, and a compound 50 by 40 yards, where they play football and hockey.

They have opportunity for gymnasium and exercise with horizontal and parallel bars, dumb-bells, Sandow developers, and also boxing.

Wants by Camp.—There were no serious complaints made by the prisoners. They brought up the question of the change of ration, whereby 1 lb. of bread and 6 oz. of flour has been lately substituted for the former ration of 1½ lb. of bread per day per man. They said that the difficulty of baking made it almost impossible to use this flour. This matter has been taken up with the War Office.

* Sent to Berlin.

The prisoners also said that they would like to have a special room for a gymnasium, and that, if they were given the wood, they could build it themselves. This was taken up with the authorities of the camp, who assured me that they would do what they could about it.

There were also the usual requests for repatriation.

Observations.—The soldiers in this camp seemed to be well and in good spirits. Improvements are continually being made, and I was informed that it is intended, in the near future, to put some sort of hard surface, concrete or otherwise, on the compound, so that, even in muddy weather, the prisoners should have a dry place for exercise. This is not a muddy place, for on the day of my visit it had been raining, and the surface of the ground was good.

There were no men in cells, and the general feeling of the camp was excellent.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché*.

No. 4.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 12.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report, covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Dyffryn Aled, Abergele, North Wales, on the 30th March, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the Staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, April 11, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, London (German Division),

April 6, 1916.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Dyffryn Aled, Abergele, North Wales, on the 30th March, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Western District, and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. Hewitt.

Prisoners.—All the 81 prisoners in this camp are German, comprising 16 military officers and 25 military servants, 36 naval officers and 1 naval servant, and 3 civil servants.

Committees.—In this camp there was an amusement committee, a wine committee, a canteen committee, a house committee, a cigar and cigarettes committee, and a postmaster-general. All these committees are chosen quarterly by the interned officers, who have absolute control over the management of the house—the only thing done by the British staff being to pay the monthly bills.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change made in the sleeping accommodations since the last visit. There is more room for each man than formerly, as several officers, previously interned here, have left the camp. The rooms were examined, and there is no criticism to be made.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There has been no change in the sanitary arrangements since the last report. They were examined and found in good condition.

Dyffryn Aled is a gentleman's country house, built more than 100 years ago, and has never had modern bathrooms installed, but each officer has his tin tub, with as much hot and cold water as he wishes.

Infirmary.—There was one doctor in charge of the infirmary, assisted by two British hospital orderlies. There was only one out-patient who had not quite recovered from his wounds, and no in-patients. In this hospital there were two wards, one large enough to hold three beds, and one with five beds. There is also a separate latrine and bath tub attached to the infirmary.

All the hospital arrangements were carefully examined and found neat, clean, and in good order.

There have been no severe cases of illness in this camp. Any disease which requires isolation is sent away to an outside hospital.

Kitchen.—There were eight cooks, all of whom were German. The kitchen is controlled entirely by a committee of the interned officers, who manage the mess in the way which an officers' mess is usually run. The average cost to each is 2s. 2d. a day.

Work.—The interned officers occupy their time by reading and study, wood-work, inlaid work, and carpentering. They give much time to the study of languages, particularly Spanish.

Exercise.—There are 4 acres of playground, which are unrestricted between the hours of 9.30 A.M. and 12.30 A.M. each day, from 3 P.M. to 5 P.M. on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday afternoons. On the other four afternoons the field is opened to the servants for exercise. On these afternoons a certain number of the interned officers may teach the servants games, if they feel so inclined. On this field they play football, hockey, and a kind of rounders, called "Schlactball." There is also an inclosed compound of about 3 acres, which is unrestricted each day between the hours of 9.30 A.M. and 6 P.M., and a bathing-pool, where they may bathe in warm weather.

Wants by Camp.—There were only two requests of importance made by the interned officers. The first was that they might be allowed to take walks, under escort, in the surrounding country. This matter I took up personally with the War Office, and was told that the whole question of walks, under escort or on parole, was being considered, and that there were hopes that a definite decision would be reached soon in the matter.

The other request was that religious services should be held more often at this camp. I took this matter up personally also with the War Office, and was informed that, in this case, it was extremely difficult for clergymen to get to Dyffryn Aled. The house is situated many miles from the nearest town, and it necessitates a long motor drive before any clergyman can reach it. The whole matter of services in internment camps is being considered, and it is hoped may be settled before long.

Observations.—Everything about this camp was found in excellent condition. The interned officers looked in good health and seemed contented. They have ample opportunity for exercise, and the situation of the house, in a romantic valley among the Welsh mountains, is fine and healthy.

There is no need for cells at this camp.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

No. 5.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 12.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Frongoch, near Bala, North Wales, on the 31st March, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, April 11, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 5.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
April 6, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Frongoch, near Bala, North Wales, on the 31st March, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Western District, and the commandant is Major K. C. Wright.

Prisoners.—There are 990 prisoners at this camp, all of whom are German, comprising 983 military prisoners and 7 naval prisoners.

Committees.—There are the usual "Lowry" and "Markel" committees; also a kitchen committee, an industrial committee, an instruction committee, a music committee, and a sports committee, all of which are composed of and run by the prisoners themselves.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change made in the sleeping accommodations since the last visit. They are furnished with field-service bedsteads, with trestles, straw palliasses, and blankets. There are shelves and hooks for clothes, and drinking utensils for use at night. Everything was examined carefully and there was no ground for criticism.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There has been no change in the sanitary arrangements since the last inspection. There were outside latrines, worked by automatic flushing, and night latrines (two in each dormitory) which are used at night only. All the latrines drain into two septic tanks, especially built, under the direction of the Royal Engineers, by civil contractors. There was an ablution room, with washing benches and fourteen shower-baths, with hot and cold water. All these were examined and found neat and clean and odourless.

Infirmary.—There was 1 doctor and 4 British and 2 German attendants. There were 30 out-patients and 5 in-patients, only 1 of whom (suffering from enteritis) was seriously ill. The other patients had colds, influenza, or were recovering from wounds.

The hospital is a building 90 feet long and 45 feet wide, containing twenty-two beds, with a bath-room and two lavatories attached. There was also an isolation hospital—a wooden hut of the regulation War Office pattern, divided into two wards, with a bath-room and lavatory in the centre. The hospital arrangements were examined, and found neat and clean and in good condition.

Kitchens.—There were nine cooks, all of whom were German. A copy of the rations is hereto annexed (Exhibit A).^{*} In addition to the ration list, extra food is purchased for the prisoners from the rebate of the canteen funds, and also from the proceeds of the sale of bones and the cookhouse swill. From these funds there was purchased during March 200 lb. of potatoes daily, 56 lb. of flour, 162 lb. of oatmeal, 330 lb. of macaroni, 336 lb. of rice, 56 lb. of currants, and 56 lb. of onions.

The kitchens were examined, and it was found that there was no criticism to be made of their condition.

Work.—There are fifty-five classes, consisting of instruction in languages (comprising English, German, French, Spanish, and Italian); electricity, engineering, mathematics, drawing, shorthand, gardening, and instruction for railway men. There is a library from which they can take out books.

The prisoners have the following clubs: a theatrical club, a games club, a teachers' club, and a police club. In connection with these, lectures are given on certain days during the week.

The prisoners have their own band and orchestra, and concerts are given every week. They also have theatrical entertainments.

In the industrial huts the prisoners do carpentering, wood-carving, watch-repairing, metal-working, &c.

There were also tailors and shoemakers, and some of the men were working on the installation of a new camp, for which they receive pay.

They have also a studio, where excellent work is done in portrait and landscape painting and sculpture.

Many of the men were engaged in building and planting new gardens, where they may raise their own flowers and vegetables.

Exercise.—There is a new recreation ground of about 4 acres, which is open from 9 A.M. till 12 noon, and from 2 P.M. to 5 P.M. every day, and on Thursdays and Sundays and Tuesdays from 5.30 P.M. to 7.30 P.M., where the prisoners play football and handball, and have, as well, outdoor gymnastics. This recreation ground is separated by a brook from the field where they have their gardens. There are also parallel bars and other gymnasium fixtures.

Two companies march out daily under escort from 9.15 A.M. to 11.15 A.M. for a route march.

The Feldwebel and senior non-commissioned officers have music and gymnastics in

* Sent to Berlin.

the general dining-room from 6.30 P.M. to 8.30 P.M. on Monday and Friday nights. On Tuesday and Thursday nights there is a choir practice and gymnastics from 6.30 P.M. to 8.30 P.M. for the rest of the prisoners. There is accommodation in the dining-room for 1,000 men.

Wants by Camp.—There were various requests at this camp that prisoners who were suffering from wounds or illness might be exchanged. These cases were all taken up with the proper authorities, who assured me that they would have the various cases investigated.

The prisoners said that they would like employment outside the camp. I have taken up this matter, and I understand that this question is being considered.

A complaint was made as to the lack of means of egress from one of the dormitory buildings in case of fire at night. I took this matter up with the War Office, and was assured that it would receive prompt attention.

A request was made by fifty-four under-officers that they be given a room to themselves, and that they should have treatment similar to that accorded to the Feldwebel. I reported this matter to the War Office.

Observations.—There was no ground for criticism of this camp. It is situated in a very healthy mountain country, and there has been little illness. There have been two deaths since the camp was originally founded: one from tuberculosis and the other from septic pneumonia, caused by wounds. The men are buried side by side in a little churchyard not far from the camp.

There was one man in cells for insubordination. The cells were examined and found in good condition, dry and clean, well lighted, and well ventilated.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

No. 6.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 19.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war camp at Handforth, Cheshire, on the 1st April, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the Staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, April 18, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 6.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
April 11, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Handforth, Cheshire, on the 1st April, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Western District, and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel A. Kenney Herbert.

Prisoners.—There were 2,713 prisoners at this camp, all of whom were German, comprising 2,399 military prisoners, 313 naval prisoners, and one civilian, who was allowed to be in this camp so that he could see his wife, who was seriously ill in Manchester, a few miles away.

Committees.—The management and control of this camp are practically in the hands of a German Feldwebel-Leutnant interned here, who is a member of all the committees. The committees are as follows: a "Lowry" committee, a relief committee, which works with Dr. Markel; a hand-work committee, which is principally interested in carving, for which it buys wood, &c.; a canteen fund committee, the profits of which go to the kitchen committee, which has charge of the kitchen; an amusement committee, which each Sunday gives either a concert or a theatrical entertainment, and often during the week also; a gymnastic committee, and a teaching committee, which gives extraordinary opportunities for education. There are thirty teachers, who

give instruction every day in languages, &c., to between 400 and 500 men. The plan of studies is hereto annexed (Exhibit A*). There is also a library committee, which has in the library over 3,000 books. All these committees are entirely chosen and run by the prisoners themselves.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change in the sleeping accommodations since the last visit, except that the beds have been arranged across instead of along the rooms, and shelves have been erected between the row of beds. One of the larger dormitories has also been turned into a dining-room, and a special dining-room is provided for the non-commissioned officers. The rooms were carefully examined and found very neat, clean, well-warmed, well-lighted, and well-ventilated.

Sanitary Arrangements.—A new sewage system has been adopted and is nearly complete. Water-flushing latrines are replacing the dry-earth system at the west end. The sanitary arrangements were inspected and found neat and clean and odourless. The commandant reports that the changes, now nearly completed, will be a great improvement, although he had received no complaints about the sewage arrangements in general.

Infirmary.—There were two doctors, assisted by nine British and four German attendants, two of whom were cooks and one an interpreter. On the day of my visit there were eighteen in-patients and thirty-five out-patients. There was only one serious case, a case of dysentery. The other patients were suffering from influenza, colds, rheumatism, and some were recovering from wounds. There is an isolation ward, where contagious cases, such as scabies, are treated.

The infirmary has its own sanitary arrangements and kitchen. Everything was found in good condition, and there was no criticism to be made.

Kitchens.—There was one kitchen in charge of a Feldwebel, two under-officers, and twenty-two men. The daily ration may be, and is, increased by purchases made by the kitchen committee from the profits of the canteen fund. There was nothing found to criticise in the kitchen arrangements.

Work.—The prisoners were engaged in shoemaking, tailoring, carpentering, and gardening; also in working on the paths and grounds of the camp, when this work is necessary and approved by the engineers, and for this they receive pay.

Exercise.—On every fine day a party, not exceeding 300, march for an hour in the adjacent country roads. Two fields are available for exercise, but only one, of about 3 to 4 acres, is being used at the present time, so as to give the grass on the other field a chance to grow.

A few prisoners have volunteered for garden work in an adjacent field, and more can be given this work if they desire.

There is also a cinder ground, nearer to the camp, which can be used as an exercise ground in wet weather, and there is a gymnasium fitted with the usual gymnastic appliances.

Wants by Camp.—There were no complaints of a serious nature at this camp. Several of the interned prisoners requested their exchange or repatriation. These matters were all taken up either with the War Office or with the commandant of the camp, and I was assured that each case should have proper attention.

There were also two complaints made about the sanitary arrangements. This matter was taken personally, and I was informed that the improvements now being made in these arrangements would obviate the difficulties complained of.

Observations.—There was no criticism of any kind to be made of this camp, and everything was found in excellent condition. The German Feldwebel-Leutnant, who has charge of the running and care of the camp, seems to have the confidence of the men, who all appeared to be in excellent physical, mental, and moral condition.

There was one man in cells awaiting trial for aggravated assault with a sharp instrument. The cells were clean, dry, and airy.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché*.

* Sent to Berlin.

No. 7.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 27.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's

information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Eastcote, Towcester, Northants, on the 11th April, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, April 25, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
April 14, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Eastcote, Towcester, Northants, on the 11th April, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commandant of the Eastern District, and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Ansley.

Prisoners.—There were 1,559 prisoners interned at the camp on the day of my visit. Of these, 705 were military, all Germans, and 854 were civilian, of whom 749 were German, 95 were Austrian, 5 were Turkish, and 5 were of other nationalities.

Committees.—In each of the compounds there were the usual "Lowry" and "Markel" committees, and also a kitchen committee, athletic and sports committees, bands committee, choral and dramatic committee, and a school committee. These committees are all formed and run by the prisoners themselves.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There are now two compounds in use at this camp, one of which is occupied by the soldiers and the other by the civilians. Each compound, as mentioned in the last report, dated the 15th February, 1916, is provided with five sleeping huts, 200 feet by 30 feet, capable of accommodating 200 men in each. The huts are lofty, well lighted and ventilated, and by night are lighted with electricity. Each man is provided with a bed, palliasse, bolster, and four blankets, and the bedding is changed at regular intervals. These huts were examined and found clean, neat, and in good condition.

Sanitary Arrangements.—Each compound is provided with latrines on the trough system, urinal, ablution room, and drying room. The ablution rooms are provided with hot shower-baths. All sewage is conducted to a main anærobic tank, and is eventually disposed of by means of rotary sprinklers and bacteria beds. Everything was examined and found clean, and there is no criticism to be made.

Infirmary.—The permanent hospital, although finished, has not yet been furnished, so that the patients at this camp are still lodged in the temporary hospital, as described in the last report.

There were two doctors and three English R.A.M.C., and two German orderlies.

There were nineteen in-patients, of whom two were soldiers, and forty out-patients, of whom five were soldiers, who were chiefly suffering from chronic nervousness, colds, and rheumatism. There was only one serious case, a man, who was suffering from Bright's disease, heart disease, and epilepsy.

The temporary hospital was carefully examined, and there is no criticism to be made. The new hospital was visited and is beyond criticism.

Kitchen.—There was a kitchen in each compound, and there was one cook to every company of fifty men, making twenty cooks to each compound, when full. All the cooks were Germans or Austrians.

The kitchens were found very neat and clean, and the food was examined and found excellent. A copy of the rations is hereto annexed. (Exhibit A.)*

Work.—The prisoners in this camp do not seem inclined to do much work. There are certain men engaged in carpentry, path-making, and bag-making. They receive pay for everything that is done for permanent improvement; the only work for which they are not paid is the usual fatigue work about the camp. It is hoped, when the buildings about the camp are finished, that, as they will have more room and opportunity, they will feel more inclined to carry on technical work, such as wood-carving, &c.

Exercise.—Each compound stands on about four acres of ground, and there is a recreation field of nine acres, where they may play games, such as football, &c. The

* Sent to Berlin.

prisoners are taken out for route marches, and have various gymnastic appliances with which to exercise.

Wants by Camp.—There were no complaints of a serious nature. Certain of the interned prisoners asked to be repatriated, on account of wounds or illness. They will be examined by the medical referee on his next visit. Some of the prisoners also thought that they had been sent to the camp from the German Hospital at Dalston before they had been entirely cured. All these cases were taken up with the commandant.

With reference to the loss of the personal effects of certain of the interned prisoners, during their absence at Alexandra Palace, mentioned in the last report, the matter has been taken up with the proper authorities here, but no definite result has yet been reached.

Observations.—This camp is still unfinished, but it is so nearly complete that every thing will be in working order in a very short time.

Much has been done lately to add to the comfort of the interned prisoners, and excellent paths have been made through the camp, so that, even in muddy weather, it is quite easy for them to take exercise.

There is also a building, which will be soon available, which can be used as a theatre or concert hall.

The feeling in the military compound among the soldiers, who are used to discipline, was excellent. In the civilian compound some of the interned men felt their confinement and the restrictions placed upon them irksome.

There is no criticism to be made about the condition or administration of the camp. There is a German Feldwebel-Leutnant in command of the military compound, and a German camp captain at the head of the civil compound. I had long interviews with both these men, and they seem to have the confidence and respect, not only of the prisoners in their respective compounds, but also of the commandant and the officers of the guard.

There was one man in cells for gross insubordination. The cells were examined and found clean, dry, well-warmed, and well-lighted.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

No. 8.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 4.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Jersey, C.I., on the 20th April, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the Staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, May 2, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
April 27, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Jersey, C.I., on the 20th April, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Jersey District, and the commandant in charge, during the absence of Lieutenant-Colonel G. Haines, is Lieutenant-Colonel L. Gordon-Cumming.

Prisoners.—There were 1,197 prisoners interned at this camp, all of whom were German, comprising 883 military and 314 naval prisoners.

Committees.—Besides the "Lowry" and "Markel" committees there were special

sports committees, each sport having its own committee, the German camp captain being president of each; also committees on music—one for the choir, one for the brass band, one for the mandoline band, and one for the guitar band; a theatrical committee and a committee on variety shows. The canteen is under the control of the camp captain.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change in the sleeping accommodations since the last visit, except that three new huts have been built, and that four huts, formerly used as dining-rooms, are now used as sleeping huts. There are now six dining huts and two sittings for each meal in each of these huts. All the huts have now been provided with zinc roofs. They were carefully examined and there was no ground found for criticism.

Sanitary Arrangement.—There has been no change since the last visit, except that glass windows have been put into the bath-huts. There are now forty baths of hot and cold water, controlled by a German non-commissioned officer, who allots certain prisoner huts the use of the bath-rooms on one day and certain on the next.

There was a bath-man in charge of the baths, who is paid from the profits of the canteen fund.

The sanitary arrangements were carefully examined and were found neat, clean, and odourless.

Infirmary.—There has been no change in the infirmary since the last visit. There are four wards in this infirmary, but the number of patients is so small that one ward is used as a schoolroom and another as a Roman Catholic chapel.

There is also an isolation ward, separated from the infirmary. The infirmary has its own kitchen and sanitary arrangements and offices, and seems to be a model of what such a hospital should be.

There is one doctor in charge and three British attendants. On the day of my visit there were six patients in the hospital; one in the isolation ward, suffering from scabies, and the other five in the infirmary suffering from slight cases, such as colds and nerves, or recovering from wounds. I examined the hospital list for several weeks past and found that the average in hospital was only two or three a day. There has been one death, from epileptic fits, since the camp was opened. I found nothing in the hospital to criticise in any way.

Kitchen.—In the kitchen there was a sergeant-major, ten assistants, and one stoker, all of whom are German. The sergeant-major was a master-cook in Germany. A list of the rations is hereto annexed. (Exhibit A.*) It may be mentioned that in this camp 1 lb. and 6 oz. of bread are given instead of 1 lb. of bread and 6 oz. of flour. The food and the kitchens were carefully inspected and there was no ground for criticism.

Work.—The prisoners were engaged in tailoring and bootmaking, for both of which they receive pay from the Government. They have in the past been doing work about the camp, for which they also receive pay from the Government, but this is now nearly finished. There is also extra fatigue work, such as that of the man who looks after the baths, and this is paid from the profits of the canteen fund.

The prisoners were also engaged in carpentry and fancy work, gardening, studying and attending lectures. Some 500 or 600 avail themselves of these opportunities for education. There is a good supply of books, there being more than a thousand in the library.

They seem much interested in theatrical and variety shows. A short while ago they played "Alt Heidelberg," which seems to have been a great success. This gives them much occupation, not only in the preparation and rehearsal of the plays, but also in printing notices and programmes for these entertainments.

Exercise.—They have an exercise field, 310 yards long and 120 yards wide, where they play football and other games. They also take route marches of between 5 and 6 miles, two or three times a week, 300 men going each time, weather permitting. The soil is dry and sandy and there is plenty of space for the prisoners to walk about in the compounds in which the huts are.

Wants.—There were no complaints of a serious nature at this camp. There were the usual requests for repatriation or exchange, and there were certain complaints about the food. This matter was examined carefully, and I was told that the men here have the usual British Army rations (see Exhibit A*), which they may supplement from the canteen. This camp is situated in a remarkably healthy district, and the men are much in the open air, which gives them voracious appetites.

There were also certain complaints about the infirmary. I examined the hospital

* Sent to Berlin.

carefully and talked with the doctor, and had no reason to criticise either the hospital or the care of the patients.

Observations.—This camp seemed to be almost a model of its kind, and the men appeared to be in extraordinary good physical condition. The camp is run by a German camp captain, and every hut has an under-officer, who is elected by the occupants of the hut and who lives in the hut. All the other under-officers and Feldwebel live by themselves.

Once a week the camp captain holds a meeting, attended by the hut captains and two men from each hut, to discuss matters of camp management and routine. At that time requests are made, which are brought to the attention of the commandant.

There was one man in cells for attempted escape. I was present at his examination, which was held on strictly just lines. The cells were examined and found excellent in every way.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché*.

No. 9.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey—(Received May 4.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report, covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Stobs, near Hawick, N.B., on the 13th April, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, May 2, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
April 19, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Stobs, near Hawick, N.B., on the 13th April, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Scottish District, and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel H. J. Bowman.

Prisoners.—There were 4,592 prisoners interned at this camp on the day of my visit, of whom 1,821 were soldiers, 502 were sailors, and 2,269 were civilians. All the soldiers and sailors were German, and of the civilians 2,089 were German, 178 were Austrian, and 2 were Turks.

Committees.—Besides the usual "Lowry" and "Markel" committees there was a "Clark" or employment committee, and also committees on the canteen, the kitchen, the school, the Y.M.C.A., hall management, the workshop, sports, education, dramatic and other entertainments, and bands; also a Board of Justice, which assists in regulating small matters between the prisoners themselves, so that, if there should be any disagreements of slight nature, these may be brought before this Board of Justice, which frequently is enabled to arrange a settlement by apology or otherwise. These committees are all chosen and run by the interned prisoners themselves.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change in the sleeping accommodation since the last report. They were examined and their condition found satisfactory.

In "A" compound there were 1,102 civilians in huts, and from this compound 19 hospital orderlies and 30 patients in hospital.

In "B" compound there were 1,098 civilian prisoners in huts, and from this compound 3 hospital orderlies and 16 hospital patients. There were also 3 Alsatian soldiers in this compound.

In "C" compound, which is a military and naval compound, there were 1,081 prisoners in huts, and from this compound 4 hospital orderlies and 6 hospital patients. There were also 5 men from this compound in cells.

In "D" compound, also a military and naval compound, there were 1,209 prisoners in huts, and from this compound 2 hospital orderlies, 13 hospital patients, and 4 men in cells. There were 4 non-combatants in "D" compound.

Six of the nine prisoners of war shown as being at present in cells are awaiting promulgation of sentence by a military court held here on the 12th April, 1916. The men were charged with pilfering the contents of parcels addressed to their fellow prisoners while engaged in working in the camp post-office. The other men in cells were there only for a short time and for minor offences.

The huts were examined, and there is no criticism to be made.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There has been no change in the sanitary arrangements since the last report, dated the 17th February, 1916, except that new shower-baths with thirty baths and hot and cold water have been installed.

The sanitary arrangements were examined and found in good condition, clean, and odourless.

Infirmary.—There were four doctors in charge of the infirmary, assisted by twenty-eight German attendants. There were sixty-five patients on the day of my visit.

There were six wards in this hospital with twenty-four beds in each, and four of these wards are now occupied. Most of the prisoners in hospital were suffering from nerves, colds, wounds, or tuberculosis. There was a special isolation ward for the tuberculosis patients; also rooms for isolating other contagious cases. There is a special hospital kitchen with four German cooks. The hospital was carefully examined, and I found nothing to criticise. The new operating room just completed will be in use soon.

There have been twelve deaths during the eighteen months since the opening of the camp, making an average of eight a year among over 4,000 interned men—a low death rate. Unfortunately there had been three deaths during the last few days before my visit, which had told very much upon the nerves of the interned soldiers and civilians, as they have so little to think about.

I had a long talk with the head medical officer of the camp, who impressed me as a careful, well-trained doctor. He told me that, in cases needing operations, he had a surgeon down from Edinburgh, and that everything was done that could be for the patients.

Kitchens.—There was a kitchen in each compound. In "A" compound there were twenty German cooks, in "B" sixteen German cooks, in "C" ten German cooks, and in "D" compound there were twelve German cooks, one of whom in each case was a chef and the others his assistants. The kitchen and food were examined, and there was found no ground for criticism. A copy of the scale of rations is hereto annexed. (Exhibit A.*)

There is also in "C" compound a new bakehouse, which bakes for the whole camp and employs fourteen bakers, all soldiers and sailors. In this bakehouse the extra 6 oz. of flour now issued with the 1 lb. of bread, instead of 1½ lb. of bread formerly issued, is baked by the prisoners and made into the sort of rolls and cakes they like. The bakehouse was examined, and everything was found in excellent condition.

Work.—Over 500 of the prisoners are engaged in roadmaking. Others are employed in shoemaking and tailoring, and they have workshops where they do excellent carpentry and carving work. They will be glad to do more carpentry and carving if they can find a market for their goods.

They also publish a paper, a copy of which is hereto annexed. (Exhibit B.*)

They have a school, where they study and hear lectures, and they have concerts and theatrical entertainments. These last are given in the Y.M.C.A. hut, which society has been of great assistance in helping the prisoners in this camp.

Exercise.—A new recreation ground has been ordered, but has not yet been enclosed. When this is finished it will give them more space in addition to that mentioned in the last report. In the compounds themselves they have skittle alleys, and opportunities and appliances for outside and inside gymnasium. They were also building two new tennis courts in the military and naval compounds.

Wants by Camp.—There were no serious complaints in this camp. As mentioned under the heading "Infirmary," some of the interned prisoners were nervous about the hospital treatment. I discussed this matter with the commandant as well as with the doctor, and I am convinced that most of their complaints arose from nerves, preyed upon by a winter which had been long and stormy, and by the unfortunate occurrence of the three deaths shortly before the time of my visit. I was told that one of these men had died from pneumonia, another from an internal complaint, aggravated by the

fact that the prisoner had not reported his condition to the doctor earlier, so that, although the surgeon from Edinburgh came down to operate, he was too late to help him, and the third from tuberculosis. I feel convinced that, with the advent of warmer weather, many of the worries of the interned prisoners will disappear.

Observations.—Work is being continually done to improve the condition of this camp, particularly the condition of the grounds, where paths are being made and gardens planted. The prisoners are encouraged to grow their own flowers and vegetables, and to make their compounds more attractive.

There are extraordinary opportunities for religious services, both Roman Catholic and Lutheran, which are held frequently.

The situation of the camp is high, and, though cool and breezy, seems very healthy.

The cells where the men are confined, as mentioned under the heading "Sleeping Accommodations," were examined and found particularly good.

The camp is run by three civil captains and one military captain, with whom I had good interviews. They seem to have the confidence both of the prisoners of war and of the officers of the guard.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché*.

No. 10.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 25.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary or State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Douglas, Isle of Man, on the 1st May, 1916, which has been made by Mr. L. H. Littlefield, Mr. B. A. Beal, and Mr. W. H. Buckler, of the Embassy staff.

American Embassy, London, May 24, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Messrs. Littlefield, Beal, and Buckler to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, London (German Division),

May 18, 1916.

Sir,

WE have the honour to submit herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Douglas, Isle of Man, on the 1st May, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Home Office, and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Madoc.

Prisoners.—On the day of our visit there were 2,744 prisoners interned in the camp, of whom 1,968 were German, 759 were Austrian, 14 were Turks, and 3 were of other nationalities.

Committees.—In this camp there is a "Lowry" committee; a Jewish committee, which arranges all Jewish matters; the privilege camp committee, which deals with internal matters connected with the privilege camp; a sports committee; an entertainments committee; and Christmas committees. All these committees are chosen and run by the prisoners themselves.

Sleeping Accommodations.—As set forth in previous reports, there are two Douglas camps—the upper camp, consisting of two compounds, and the lower, or privilege camp. There are 500 men in the privilege camp who, among other advantages, are allowed to have servants, who are obtained from the poorer men in the upper camp. There are about 100 of these men acting as servants in the privilege camp.

The men interned in the privilege camp contribute towards their maintenance at the following rates:—

12s. 6d. per week for board and a half of a tent.

10s. per week for board and a third of a tent.

12s. per week for board and a third of a hut.

[946]

C 2

Those men of the privilege camp who occupy tents do so at their own desire.

In the upper camp there are eight huts containing bunks, one hut with cubicles, and some tents with camp beds for those who prefer sleeping in tents. Since the last visit the number of cubicles has been increased. Each hut accommodates 120 men. There is a captain in each hut and a captain to each compound.

In the privilege camp there were two new rows of asbestos room huts. Each hut has accommodation for three men with beds, and the tents have a similar capacity.

All these accommodations were examined, and it was found there was no criticism to be made.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There have been certain additions to the permanent sanitary arrangements since the last visit. New lavatories and latrines have been opened in the observation tower of the privilege camp, and three new hot-water baths have been added. A Russian bath will shortly be opened. In the upper camp a new central drain for surface water has been installed. All the sanitary arrangements were inspected and found neat, clean, and odourless.

Infirmary.—In the infirmary there was one English doctor and one German, who had volunteered his services. There were four German attendants.

On the day of our visit there were three men in hospital and five in the observation ward, none of whom were seriously ill. The invalids were suffering from minor complaints, such as colds, dyspepsia, and sprains received during exercise.

The hospital conditions were found excellent.

Kitchens.—The kitchens were examined and found neat and in good condition. A copy of the daily dietary of the camp (Exhibit A)* and an extract from the dietary agreement made with the better class aliens (Exhibit B)* are hereto annexed.

We found no possible criticisms could be made of the kitchens or food.

Work.—About 85 per cent. of the prisoners are at work. They find employment as the following :—

Waiters and stewards in the privilege camp, working for their fellow prisoners, roughly about 100.

Clerks in the quartermaster's store, purser's office, censor's and parcels office, and requisition office.

Camp cleaners (mostly lavatory work), two or three bath attendants, and masseur.

Private tailors.

Barbers.

Men who wash clothes for other men, of whom there are a considerable number.

Watchmakers.

Jewellers.

Dentists.

One doctor.

Hospital orderlies.

Librarians.

Assistants in Cunningham's kitchen, &c., for the privilege camp, which takes quite a number of men.

Workers in the gardens about the camp and the fowl-run (a new feature since the last report).

Members of the two bands, string and brass.

Artists, who are able to work in the studios found for them—also a new feature.

A large number of inmates go out every day as labourers to the neighbouring farms and gardens and do regular work, the number of which is nearly a hundred now, and could be easily increased.

For all work, not included in the regular fatigue work in the camp, the interned men receive pay.

There are about 1,400 interned men occupied as teachers or pupils in the camp schools. There are technical schools, in which the prisoners work at bookbinding, tailoring, shoemaking and cobbling, broom-making, and an art school, attended by many men, and a small typewriting school.

Some of the men are also learning Braille work, so as to eventually make books for the blind.

In the privilege camp first aid, on the St. John's Ambulance lines, is being taken up.

There are many new gardens in both the upper and lower camps, and a new green-

* Sent to Berlin.

house in the upper camp. There is a new hen-run in the lower camp, and a piggery is being built in the upper camp. In the lower camp there is also a new studio and a new workshop.

Exercise.—In addition to the recreation field mentioned in the last report, we were told that another exercise field of about eight acres is to be opened near the privilege camp. In the recreation field, near the upper camp, there are five new tennis courts, a football field, and a running track. The interned men have opportunity for tennis, football, fistball, skittles, for which a fine new alley has been built, running, dancing, boxing, wrestling, and swimming. They have two billiard tables and a ping-pong table. There is a very large gymnastic class in connection with the upper camp, and a small one, mostly for Swedish drill, in the lower camp. There is a swimming pool in the lower camp.

On the evening of our visit to the camp the prisoners gave an interesting exhibition of boxing, wrestling, and gymnastics, a programme of which is hereto annexed. (Exhibit C.)*

Wants by Camps.—We had opportunities of talking with the interned men, and there were no complaints made of any serious nature.

Observations.—Since the last visit much has been done to make the inmates' time pass more quickly. They have now a library of from 5,000 to 6,000 books, which are in constant circulation.

Good facilities for religious services and observances exist. In addition to the usual services the Roman Catholics have their chapel and confessional, and the Jews, who are under the spiritual guidance of Rabbi Silbermann, have opportunities for their rites. At the time of our visit we saw the elaborate decorations for the Passover, the celebration of which had taken place shortly before.

The relations between the commandant and the interned men seemed excellent, and the inmates appeared contented and well.

There were three men in cells, and one waiting trial. The cells were examined and found in good condition, well-warmed, well-lighted, and well-ventilated.

We have, &c.

LELAND H. LITTLEFIELD.
BOYLSTON A. BEAL.
W. H. BUCKLER.

* Sent to Berlin.

No. 11.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 25.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Knockaloe, near Peel, Isle of Man, on the 29th April, 30th April, and the 1st May, 1916, which has been made by Mr. L. H. Littlefield, Mr. B. A. Beal, and Mr. W. H. Buckler, of the Embassy staff.

American Embassy, London, May 24, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 11.

Messrs. Littlefield, Beal, and Buckler to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
May 18, 1916.*

Sir

WE have the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Knockaloe, near Peel, Isle of Man, on the 29th April, 30th April, and 1st April, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Home Office, and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel F. W. Panzera, C.M.G. There is a sub-commandant in charge of each of the four compounds: in Camp I, Major Kaye; in Camp II, Major Fyfe-Scott; in Camp III, Major Dickson; in Camp IV, Major Nodin.

Prisoners.—There were 20,563 men interned at this camp on the day of our first

visit, the 29th April, 1916, of whom 5,627 were in Camp I, 4,423 in Camp II, 4,640 in Camp III, and 5,873 in Camp IV. Of these 16,936 were German, 3,382 were Austrian, 101 were Turks, and 144 were of other nationalities.

Committees.—Besides the usual "Lowry" and "Markel" committees, there were the following:—

Relief Committees.

Kitchen Committees, having control of the kitchens.

Recreative Hall Committees.

A Prisoners' Aid Society.—A copy of their reports are hereto annexed. (Exhibits A1 and A2.)

Sports Committees.

Gymnasium Committees, which arrange classes in club-swinging, parallel bars, boxing, &c.

Industrial Committees.—The tools for woodwork, &c., are provided by the Emergency Committee for the Assistance of Germans, Austrians, and Hungarians in Distress. A central industrial committee has been formed in each camp, consisting of a chairman and a member representing the industrial committee in each compound.

Educational Committees, which have charge of all educational activities in the camp. Instruction is given in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, mathematics, political economy, book-keeping, stenography, penmanship, landscape gardening, &c. The instructors are all German.

Library Committees.—There is a central library in each camp and reserve libraries in each compound. There are approximately 4,000 books in each camp, of which 40 per cent. are in constant circulation. A penny per month is charged for books lent to men who can afford to pay it.

Musical Committees.—The prisoners have both string and brass orchestras in each of the four camps. Concerts are given from time to time, both separately and in connection with the dramatic performances.

Dramatic Committees.—Plays are given in both German and English with considerable regularity. The costumes, scenery, and stage settings are all arranged by the inmates of the camps.

A Sick and Burial Club, which cares for the prisoners during their last illness, and sees that they are properly buried in an adjacent churchyard, also attends to their graves. This Sick and Burial Board is at present made up of men from Camp II, but it is hoped that soon representatives from all the camps will be on the committee.

All these committees are chosen and run by the interned men themselves.

There is also in Camp IV a central committee, about the appointment of which there appears to be some discussion and dissatisfaction. This matter is alluded to later in this report.

Sleeping Accommodation.—There has been practically no change in the sleeping accommodation since the last visit. The huts are sectional, being of the regular War Office pattern, 30 feet by 15 feet, each section holding thirty men. Six huts are placed together, and each hut is capable of accommodating 180 men. They are provided with trestle-tables and chairs for each group of ten men, and each man had a bed board, mattress, and three blankets. The huts are being put in good weather-proof condition, and are being protected against the wind and rain by felt and tarred paper. We were told that arrangements were also being made to provide the huts with porches, so that the doors might be sheltered. The huts were examined and were found clean, well-lighted, and well-ventilated.

Sanitary Arrangements.—The drainage of these camps is on the water-borne system. There have been improvements made in the sanitary arrangements since the last visit. Wash-houses have been built in all the compounds, and about forty wash-house basins provided in each. The bathrooms have been divided to supply dressing and bathing accommodations, and are fitted with hot and cold water. Drying rooms were also attached. Each camp has a disinfecting and stoving chamber. The incinerator for refuse has been done away with. Refuse is now thrown into the sea from a high cliff at a short distance from the camp, where it is rapidly carried away by the tide, and the garbage is carted far away into the country and used for purpose of manure.

We were informed that attention is being given to the drainage and water question. Both of these were much improved since the last visit, and additional improvements are

being made. End screens are being provided for the latrines to prevent draughts, and many were already in place.

Infirmary.—Each camp has its own hospital. There were 8 doctors employed and 40 German attendants. The patients were divided as follows :—

In Camp I there were 29 in-patients.
 In Camp II there were 28 in-patients.
 In Camp III there were 28 in-patients.
 In Camp IV there were 61 in-patients.

There is also an isolation hospital for contagious diseases, situated at a distance from the camps, where there were 44 patients. During the time of our visit the number of in-patients varied from 186 to 190.

There were also out-patients at the various hospitals as follows :—

In Camp I there were 39 out-patients.
 In Camp II there were 100 out-patients.
 In Camp III there were 45 out-patients.
 In Camp IV there were 80 out-patients.

Of the in-patients in Camp I there was one bad case of anæmia and two serious cases of heart trouble. In Camp II there were no patients seriously ill. In Camp III there was one case of a man recovering from appendicitis. In Camp IV there were two older men who seemed to be suffering from weakness of the heart.

There have been certain improvements made in these hospitals since the last visit. In the hospital in Camp IV there is now being built a recreation room, where convalescents may sit, which will give more room for the patients; also a special sink has been provided for washing the hospital utensils, and new latrines have been installed. They seem to be at work at this hospital to improve its condition. As Camp IV has the largest number of older men interned, this hospital has more patients than others, and seemed rather crowded at the time of our visit.

In the isolation hospital we found only one bath and one tap for all the patients who are suffering from various sorts of contagious diseases. We took this matter up with the proper authorities, who assured us that it should have their attention. The sanitary arrangements in all the hospitals might be improved, except, possibly, in the hospital in Camp I, which was originally the main hospital for the camp, and is larger and better equipped than the others.

Deaths in the camp since it was opened are as follows :—

In Camp I there have been fourteen deaths, chiefly from diseases of the lungs and paralysis.
 In Camp II there have been ten deaths, chiefly from diseases of the heart.
 In Camp III there have been two deaths, one from cerebral hæmorrhage and the other from peritonitis.
 In Camp IV there have been twelve deaths, the majority from tuberculosis.
 In the Isolation Hospital there have been four deaths, three from tuberculosis and one from alcoholic neuritis.

Each hospital has its own kitchen arrangements. All the hospitals were examined and found clean and well-kept.

Kitchens.—There was a kitchen in each compound, with an average of 10 cooks in each, all of whom were German. There were 230 cooks in all, including those in the hospitals.

Improvements have been made in various of the kitchens by opening windows, which give better light and air. A copy of the rations is hereto annexed. (Exhibit B.)*

The canteens are run by the Isle of Man Government, which gives a certain percentage of the profits to the interned men. This money is turned back into the kitchens for extra food at the rate of 2*l.* per week per compound. At Easter each compound had an extra 10*l.* thus turned back. A copy of the canteen price list is hereto annexed. (Exhibit C.)*

The kitchens and the food were examined and we found nothing to criticise.

Work.—Nearly 72 per cent. of the interned men in this camp are at work. Many of the men were employed as bootmakers, tailors, joiners, cap workers, plumbers

* Sent to Berlin.

woodworkers, gardeners, latrine men, police, coal and railway workers, quarry workers, post-office workers, and parcel-post workers, &c.

Professor Albers, in Camp IV, who has lived over twenty years in Manchester, directs the school work carried on in each of the seven compounds in his camp. He states that the standard adopted is that of the Maturitaets Examen, and that the study covers commercial subjects, languages, mathematics, and physics, so far as they can be taught without a laboratory. Chemistry cannot be attempted. Professor Albers asked that these facts should be made known, so that persons following the courses in Camp IV might have their work recognised by the German Education Authorities after the war.

There are now about 30 acres outside the camp under cultivation for vegetables, for the future use of the prisoners in the camp. There are also gardens inside the camp for flowers, &c. The gardens are not only giving the prisoners healthy work in the open air, but will, in both summer and winter, provide green vegetables which they are so anxious to have.

There was an exhibition this spring of the artistic work done in the camp, held in Camp IV, which prisoners in other camps were allowed to visit. Catalogue of the exhibits is hereto annexed. (Exhibit D.)*

Some of the small motor-boats made by the men were very ingeniously built.

Exercise.—Each camp covers about 4 acres of ground, and each compound is approximately 100 by 150 yards; 25 acres have been added to the recreation field, making a total of 45 acres available for exercise, not counting the working parties. The following games and exercises are engaged in daily, weather permitting: Football, skittles, club-swinging, parallel-bar exercise; also boxing, dancing, and orchestral playing. Cricket, tennis, and quoits are now being arranged.

Wants by Camp.—There were no complaints of a serious nature. There were the usual requests for repatriation and for removal to other camps in different parts of the country. We found a certain number of older men and some boys who asked to be repatriated.

In Camp III a complaint was made about the difficulty of personal intercourse between the representatives of the camp and the commandant. This had caused dissatisfaction. The men seemed to have confidence in the new commandant, but they told us that they had difficulty in approaching him. We took this matter up with the proper authorities, and were informed that they would in future have more opportunity for personal intercourse.

In Camp IV there was a complaint about the so-called "central committee," which deals with the internal management of the camp. We were told that this committee was appointed by the sub-commandant of this camp, without consultation with the interned men, and that the interned men had no confidence in it. This matter was investigated, and it was found that one of the reasons for the lack of confidence in the central committee seemed to be due to the presence on the committee of one man in the camp who is not popular among his fellows.

There were complaints about the hospital treatment, particularly of the care of the eyes, ears, and teeth, for which the interned men claimed that there was not sufficient opportunity for special treatment.

It seemed to us that in some of the hospitals the sanitary arrangements might be improved, and we took this up with the proper authorities.

There was a complaint that there were no shelters for the men while waiting to receive parcels, nor for the outside patients visiting the doctor. This matter was taken up.

Observations.—We made a thorough visit to all the camps at Knockaloe, inspecting the huts, cooking, and sanitary arrangements, and devoted one morning to the visiting of the hospitals.

We gave not only the various committees, but also individual men in all the compounds, an opportunity to talk to us and to bring before us any complaint or request they might wish to make.

There have been many improvements since the last visit. As mentioned under the heading "Sanitary Arrangements," there is a new wash-house in each compound.

In Camp I there is a new workshop and new tennis courts and gardens. There are new joiners employed in the compounds of the camps to make the current repairs to the huts. We were told that about 1,000 tons of gravel and sand had been brought up from the Peel Beach and distributed among the compounds for making paths. The

* Sent to Berlin.

paths have been much improved, and work is still being done. We were told that this matter of paths was having the attention of the commandant, and they seem now to be firm and of sufficient width. At the time of our visit there was no mud anywhere.

The new commandant, who has only been there some ten weeks, seems to have gained the confidence and respect of the interned men. He seems to be doing all in his power to better the conditions of the camp. He finds difficulty in getting material, such as tarred paper or felt, &c., for use on the huts. He told us that he had the matter in hand, and was giving the betterment of conditions at the camp every attention.

The halls used for recreation and camp activities in each compound were originally built for dining huts, but the prisoners prefer to eat in their own huts, so that these dining huts were left for recreation and other uses.

One prisoner is captain of each hut, and another prisoner is captain of each compound. Communication between the compounds and various camps is only allowed with special permits.

The whole tone of the camp is much better than it was at the time of the last visit. (See report of the 8th January, 1916.) There were fewer complaints, and the prisoners seemed much more contented.

There were two men in cells, confined for a short time for minor offences. The cells were examined and there was no criticism to be made.

We have, &c.

LELAND H. LITTLEFIELD.
BOYLSTON A. BEAL.
W. H. BUCKLER.

No. 12.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 16.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Alexandra Palace, London, N., on the 24th May, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, June 15, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 12.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
June 2, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit to the prisoners of war internment camp at Alexandra Palace, London, N., on the 24th May, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Eastern District, and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel R. S. Frowd-Walker, C.M.G.

Prisoners.—There were 2,334 civilians interned at this camp, of whom 1,598 were German, 695 were Austrian, 14 were Turks, and 27 were of other nationalities.

Committees.—Besides the usual "Lowry" and "Markel" committees, there are committees on football, the tennis club, skittle alleys, gardening, theatrical entertainments, and the orchestra. All the internal management of the camp is run by committees chosen by the interned men themselves, who are allowed to arrange all their affairs with as little interference from the authorities as possible.

Sleeping Accommodations.—Only slight changes have been made since the last report, dated the 18th February, 1916. There are now six separate rooms for the privileged men, one of which is occupied by consular officers awaiting exchange, while another is set apart for the performance of Jewish rights.

Everything was examined and found in good condition and well-ventilated.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There has been no change in the sanitary arrangements since the last report. Everything was examined and found neat, clean, and odourless.

Infirmary.—No changes have been found in the infirmary since the last report. There are two hospital wards and one observation ward. There were two German hospital attendants to look after the general affairs of the interned men, and eight R.A.M.C. orderlies under the charge of three British doctors.

On the day of my visit there were thirty-seven in-patients and twenty out-patients, none of whom was seriously ill. The chief complaints seemed to be stomach trouble, nerves, colds, and influenza. Since the opening of the camp there have been two deaths, one from pneumonia and the other from apoplexy. There is a separate kitchen in the infirmary which is run by two German cooks and an orderly. There is also an isolation hospital, but there were no patients in it. This isolation hospital has two wards and its own kitchen.

There is a special winter garden with plants and palm trees, and an outdoor compound for the convalescents, and there is also a special library in the hospital especially for the use of the patients. Everything was inspected and found in excellent condition.

Kitchens.—There are in all four kitchens in the camp and thirty-one cooks, not including the hospital cooks. A new bakery has been installed since the last visit, which is in the charge of eight bakers, who bake bread and cakes for the interned men. A copy of the rations is hereto annexed (Exhibit A). The kitchens and bakery were examined and it was found that there was no criticism to be made.

Work.—As mentioned in the last report, the interned men are engaged in various occupations: carpentry, shoemaking, tailoring, glass engraving, building small boats, &c., and do excellent work. The workshops have been extended so that there is now more room for carpentry and metalwork, &c. There are also studios for both painters and sculptors.

There have been two new music rooms set apart in which soloists may practice. There is a camp band and also an orchestra.

There are libraries containing about 2,500 books which are in constant circulation. A new reading room has lately been opened.

There have been many improvements made in the gardens and many new ones planted, of which over 200 have been allotted to the interned men for growing flowers and vegetables. A new poultry farm has already been started on the island in the lake.

All work done by the interned men is paid for. This includes work on the ornamental gardens in the park, and also the ordinary fatigue work about the camp. This pay is taken from a fund raised from the profits of selling special cakes, which are baked in the bakery at the camp.

Exercise.—Four new tennis courts and two fine new skittle alleys have been built, besides the exercise fields and grounds mentioned in the last report, which are still in constant use. Route marches are taken round the adjoining race-course, which is a course of about 1 mile. The interned men have also physical drill classes.

Complaints.—Opportunity was given to the men interned here to talk to me privately, but there were no complaints of a serious nature. There were the usual requests for repatriation, all of whom were taken up with the competent authorities.

Observations.—Work is constantly being done to make the life of the men interned here more agreeable. According to a new rule they may now smoke at the dining tables.

The canteen has been put more under the control of the interned men. The price list has been revised and a certain percentage of the profits is given back to the men themselves.

There is an improved cinematograph, which gives exhibitions once a week. I was told that that given the night before my visit was much enjoyed.

The men are now very busy making arrangements for Shakespearian performances to celebrate the tercentenary of Shakespeare's death, and these are to take place before long.

Two Turkish baths have been installed, which are in the charge of an attendant masseur.

I was informed that the interned men now have freedom to wander about the park and compounds at will during the day.

There was no one in cells, which were, however, examined and found satisfactory.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

Exhibit A.—*Amended Scale of Rations for Prisoners of War.*

Bread	...	...	...	...	...	1½ lb.
Meat, fresh or frozen	...	...	...	...	...	8 oz.
or						
" pressed	...	...	...	...	...	4 "
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	½ "
or						
Coffee	...	...	...	...	...	1 "
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	½ "
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	2 "
Milk, condensed	...	...	...	...	...	⅓ ¹ / ₁₀ th tin (1 lb.)
Vegetables, fresh	...	...	...	...	...	8 oz.
Pepper	...	...	...	...	...	⅓ ¹ / ₂ oz.
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	1 oz.
Peas, beans, or oatmeal	...	...	...	...	...	2 "

Alexandra Palace Camp, January 19, 1916.

No. 13.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 16.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war camp at Feltham, Middlesex, on the 17th May, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of this Embassy.

American Embassy, London, June 15, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 13.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
May 29, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Feltham, Middlesex, on the 17th May, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Eastern District, and the commandant is Major G. W. Johnson.

Prisoners.—There were 380 men interned at this camp, of whom 201 were military, 4 were naval, and 175 were civil prisoners. Of these 319 were German, 55 were Austrian, and 6 of other nationalities.

Committees.—There was a "Markel" committee, and a "Lowry" committee will be organised. The day before my visit a carpenters' committee had been formed, and on the day of my visit a blacksmiths' committee was being formed. These two last-mentioned committees consist of two soldier prisoners of war and two interned civilians. The committees are chosen and run by the interned men themselves. More committees will be formed later, but the camp has only been opened six weeks and is not yet in proper working order.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There are seven sections of cubicles, in which 304 of the interned men sleep. These cubicles are furnished with iron beds with mattresses of straw or coir, and each man has three blankets and a pillow.

There are also three dormitories in use at the present time, two of which are capable of holding thirty-five to forty men, and the third is capable of holding ninety men. These dormitories were, however, not yet full.

There are a number of separate rooms for use by ships'-masters and other men, to whom it is desirable to give more private accommodations. Three of these rooms are now in use.

There are also 114 new cubicles, large enough to hold two men in each, which have not yet been opened.

The dormitories are furnished with the regulation army beds, with straw or coir mattresses, three blankets, and a pillow.

All the sleeping accommodations were examined, and there is no criticism to be made on their condition.

Sanitary Arrangements.—This camp has its own water and its own drainage and sewage system, with a septic tank in connection with the sewage.

There are two bathrooms containing twenty-two baths, with hot and cold water, and a large laundry and drying-room, with all modern conveniences. A washroom containing twelve basins is attached to each dormitory, and there are washrooms containing eighty-six basins for the men in the cubicles, and more will be added as more interned men arrive.

There were twenty outside latrines, and twenty more are being built; also outside urinals. There were two inside latrines for night use attached to each section and to each dormitory.

The sanitary arrangements were examined and found neat, clean, and odourless.

Infirmary.—There was one doctor in charge of the infirmary, assisted by one British R.A.M.C. orderly, one dispenser, and two German attendants. There was only one patient in the hospital, suffering from bladder trouble, and six out-patients, suffering from sprains, colds, and other slight troubles.

The infirmary is a separate brick building, with a bath, kitchen, and latrine, and seemed well-equipped, well-warmed, and well-ventilated. The one patient who was in hospital said he was improving in health and had no complaints to make of any sort. Everything was found very neat and clean.

Kitchen.—There was one large kitchen with a bakery attached. There were five cooks and three bakers, all of whom were prisoners. A copy of the rations is hereto annexed. (Exhibit A.)* In this camp they bake their own bread, 18 oz. a day being allowed for each man.

The kitchen was carefully inspected, and the food tasted and found excellent. There was no criticism of any kind to be made.

Work.—There are 40 to 50 acres of farm land belonging to the camp grounds, where the prisoners do farm work, and they have their own gardens for vegetables and flowers. There is a large carpenters' shop and a large blacksmiths' shop in separate brick buildings, where they can do work such as wood-carving, ironwork, pipe-fitting, &c.

Exercise.—They have two excellent fields for exercise, one of between 5 and 6 acres and the other of 3 acres; also two gravel compounds of about 1 acre each, and about 1,000 yards of road within the compounds of the camp, where the men may walk in wet weather. They have a large, well-equipped indoor gymnasium and an open-air swimming-bath, and I was told that route marches would be started soon.

Wants.—There were no serious complaints of any nature. There were one or two requests for repatriation.

Observations.—This camp is a permanent brick building, three storeys high, and covers between 1 and 2 acres of ground. It was originally a Borstal institution and used as a reformatory, but has been remodelled so that the feeling of prison confinement has been done away with. There are central heating arrangements, two dining-rooms, and two canteens, one for the soldiers and one for the civilians, the profits from the canteen being given back to the canteen fund. It has its own fire-engine and adequate protection against fire. There is a chapel near by where Roman Catholic services are held, the majority of the interned men being Roman Catholics.

There was no one in cells, which, however, I examined and found excellent.

This camp was only started about six weeks ago, and is hardly yet in full working order. This, and also the fact that new men are arriving daily, explains why they have not yet been enabled to do much about organising committees or arranging the classes and amusements found in the other camps.

The situation in the camp is excellent—it is in a healthy district and enjoys good air and good soil.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

* Sent to Berlin.

No. 14.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 16.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to present herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Wakefield on the 8th June, 1916, which has been made by Mr. B. A. Beal and Mr. W. H. Buckler of the staff of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, June 15, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 14.

Messrs. Beal and Buckler to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
June 12, 1916.*

Sir,

WE have the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Lofthouse Park, Wakefield, on the 8th June, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Northern District, and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. Low, who was, however, at the time of our visit, absent on account of illness, his place being temporarily taken by Major E. T. Lloyd.

Prisoners.—There were 1,447 civilian prisoners on the day of our visit, of whom 1,322 were German, 122 were Austrian, and 3 were Turks.

Committees.—Besides the usual "Lowry" and "Markel" committees, there is an Austro-Hungarian Committee, which devotes its particular attention to interned Austrians and Hungarians, a kitchen committee, which arranges everything to do with the mess, a sports committee, a theatrical committee, a Y.M.C.A. committee, and a camp committee, which deals with the internal management and affairs of the camp. All these committees are chosen and run by the prisoners themselves.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change in the sleeping accommodations since the last report. These were examined and found neat, clean, and in good condition.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There has been no change in the sanitary arrangements since the last visit. The latrines are all water-flushed, and the camp refuse is removed daily by a contractor. Everything was examined and found neat and clean.

Infirmary.—There was one doctor in charge of the camp hospital, assisted by four British R.A.M.C. orderlies and sixteen German attendants. On the day of our visit there were forty-three in-patients and eighty-eight out-patients, none of whom was seriously ill. Several of the out-patients were suffering from colds, slight sprains received during exercise, &c. There has been no change in the hospital arrangements since the last visit. They were examined and it was found that there was no criticism to be made.

Kitchens.—There were thirty-four cooks in charge of the three kitchens at this camp. In the South Camp there were three head-cooks and eight assistants; in the North Camp there were three head-cooks and eight assistants; and in the West Camp there were two head-cooks and ten assistants.

The ordinary Government ration is supplemented by extra meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, &c., which the interned men purchase themselves. This camp is a privileged camp, where a superior class of men are sent, and they are prepared to pay for better messes and accommodations.

Two specimen bills of fare are enclosed herewith (Exhibit A).* The beef and Hamburger steaks, which had been cooked for dinner on the day of our visit, attracted our particular attention on account of their excellence.

Work.—The interned men pass their time chiefly with carpentering, gardening, wood-carving, painting and drawing, lectures, and the study of languages.

Exercise.—The men are taken for route marches three or four times a week. They use the exercise grounds mentioned in the last report, and a 3-acre field for exercise is

* Sent to Berlin.

about to be opened. There are three new tennis courts, making a total of eight tennis courts, on which the men were playing at the time of our visit. There is also a gymnasium, fitted with the usual gymnastic appliances.

Wants by Camp.—There were no serious complaints of any kind. A certain number of the men wanted to be repatriated.

Observations.—We found this camp in a very much better condition than it was at the time of our previous visit on the 16th March, 1916. There was no mud, and the interned men were making the grounds attractive with their gardens. Although at the time of our visit it had been recently raining, we found everything absolutely dry.

The interned men seemed much happier than when we saw them last, and there were fewer complaints of all kinds. The only two matters that seemed to us to need consideration were the question of the possible condition of the paths in winter and the question of the water supply. Some work has already been done upon the roads and paths, and we were assured that the matter was having the attention of the competent authorities, and that during the summer they would be put into proper condition for the next winter. The interned men seemed to be willing to work on the paths themselves, if they were furnished with "slag" and ashes. This was taken up, and we were assured that this matter would be arranged. The shortness of men now available for work in this part of the country makes it difficult to carry out improvements as quickly as it is desired.

The question of the shortage of the water supply at certain times of the day, which was spoken of by some of the interned men, was taken up with the proper authorities, and we were assured that the matter should have their attention. It was suggested to us that one reason that the water supply in the two upper camps was not very plentiful was that much water was used in the lower camp for the watering of the gardens and keeping the tennis courts in good condition.

We had talks with all the head captains, who seemed anxious to do all they could to improve the condition of the camp. We found the relations between the interned men and the officers of the guard much better than they were at the time of our last visit. There were no men in cells.

We have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL.
W. H. BUCKLER.

No. 15.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 23.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the officer prisoners of war internment camp at Holyport, near Maidenhead, Berkshire, on the 25th May, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, June 22, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 15.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
June 2, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the officer prisoners of war internment camp at Holyport, near Maidenhead, Berkshire, on the 25th May, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Southern District, and the commandant is Colonel J. R. Harvey.

Prisoners.—There are at present interned at this camp eighty-nine military officers, twenty-nine naval officers, forty-seven orderlies, and three civilians, two of whom are cooks and one a barber. All the prisoners are Germans.

Committees.—The only committees at this camp are the mess committee and the

house committee. These are entirely composed of and run by the interned officers themselves, who manage all the internal affairs of the camp.

Sleeping Accommodations.—As mentioned in the last report, dated the 28th February, 1916, there are twenty-three bedrooms occupied by the officer prisoners, which accommodate from one to twenty-six men in each. The three War Office huts, accommodating twelve officers in each, have now been increased to seventeen, some of which are now in use, and the others will be used as occasion demands. The officers each have one bedstead and mattress, pillow and bolster, and there is one chest of drawers and washstand with accessories between two officers.

The officers have also dining rooms and reading and writing rooms, fitted with easy chairs and tables.

The orderlies sleep in two huts, and have the same accommodations as the British soldiers, with camp bed, &c.

All the sleeping accommodations were examined and found neat, clean, and well-ventilated.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There is no change in the sanitary arrangements since the last visit. As mentioned in a former report, there is a water-flushing system indoors and outdoors, hot and cold baths, a shower bath, and a swimming bath.

However, since the last visit was made, a new sewage system and septic tank has been decided upon, and is being installed.

Everything was examined and found neat and clean.

Infirmary.—There were two doctors and one British R.A.M.C. in charge of the hospital at this camp, but there were no in-patients. A few men, suffering from slight troubles, such as sprains received during exercise, were being treated as out-patients.

Kitchens.—As mentioned in the last report, there is a separate kitchen for the interned officers and another for the orderlies, in charge of five German cooks, two civilian and three assistants. The officers have the entire charge of their own mess, which is managed in the same way as is a British officers' mess. The kitchens were examined, and there is no criticism to be made.

Work.—The officer prisoners have no work to do for themselves as they have their servants to attend to them. They pass their time chiefly in study and reading, and in attending to the gardens allotted to them.

Exercise.—Since the last visit there has been instituted in this camp a system of taking interned officers for walks through the country, on their giving a limited parole. Twenty-five are taken out each clear day, conducted by an English officer, unarmed, and an English orderly. They expressed themselves much pleased with this liberty.

New tennis courts are continually being built, and there are now between twelve and fifteen courts in constant use. In addition to these they have hockey, football, and fistball on the exercise grounds, which are the same as those described in former reports.

Wants by Camp.—There were few complaints of any kind made in the camp and none were serious. The prisoners felt the lack of communication with Germany, as they receive no modern books about the war or German newspapers, and the posts seem slow in bringing the letters from home. There were also a few requests for repatriation.

I had a long talk with Captain Pochhammer, the senior officer in the camp, who took me over the buildings, and I also had an opportunity to see any officers who wished to speak to me privately. They seemed much happier and more contented than at the time of my former visit, and all expressed themselves pleased with the new system of walks about the country.

Observations.—The former commandant of this camp was obliged to leave on account of ill-health, and his successor, Colonel Harvey, seems to have the confidence of the interned officers, who spoke in pleasant terms of him.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

No. 16.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 23.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's

information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Stratford, London, E., on the 20th May, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, June 22, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 16.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
May 31, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Stratford, London, E., on the 20th May, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Eastern District, and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Heygate Lambert.

Prisoners.—On the day of my visit there were 174 men interned at the camp, of whom 141 were German, 30 were Austrian, and 3 were Turks.

Committees.—There were the usual "Lowry" and "Markel" committees. Besides these there was a camp committee. The committees are chosen and run by the interned men.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change in the sleeping accommodations since the last report, dated the 18th February, 1916. The large amount of room and the small number of interned men give greater opportunity for comfort than at that time. All the rooms were inspected and were found neat and clean, well-lighted, and well-ventilated.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There has been no change in the sanitary arrangements since the last visit. I inspected and found everything in excellent condition, clean, and odourless.

Infirmary.—There is one doctor in charge of the infirmary, who is assisted by one German and one British R.A.M.C. orderly. There were nineteen patients, only one of whom was in bed, suffering from a nervous breakdown. The others were suffering from slight troubles. Everything was examined, and it was found there was no criticism to be made.

Kitchens.—The kitchen arrangements were the same as mentioned in the last report. Everything was examined and found neat and clean. The bread was tasted and found excellent. A copy of the scale of rations is hereto attached (Exhibit A).

Work.—There was the usual fatigue work to be done about the camp by the interned men. They were also engaged in a little carpentry and metal work, and a few more occupied in tailoring.

Exercise.—The opportunities for exercise are the same as mentioned in former reports. The exercising field was dry and free from mud.

Wants by Camp.—There were few complaints of a serious nature. Many of the interned men wanted to be repatriated. I was informed that their cases were being considered, and that, though repatriation in some cases was slow, they were not being neglected.

There were certain complaints about the treatment in the hospitals. I was told that any serious cases were not treated there, but were sent to an outside hospital, and that this hospital was only used for slight diseases.

Observations.—The number of prisoners in this camp has been greatly reduced since the last visit. This camp is now practically only used as a place where interned men are sent from the United Kingdom for purposes of repatriation. There are, however, a few men who prefer to stay in this camp so that they may be near their wives and families and receive visits from them.

Since the last visit a Y.M.C.A. tent has been put up in the exercise ground, which gives the men shelter from the sun.

There were no men in cells, which were, however, examined and found satisfactory.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

Exhibit A.—*Scale of Rations.*

Bread	...	...	...	...	...	1½ lb.
Flour (withdrawn, but option to continue if desired)	...	...	...	...	...	6 oz.
Meat—						
Fresh or frozen	...	...	...	...	...	8 „
or						
Preserved	...	...	...	...	...	½ ration.
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	½ oz.
or						
Coffee	...	...	...	...	...	1 „
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	½ „
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	2 „
Pepper	...	...	...	...	...	¼ „
Milk (condensed)	...	...	...	...	...	½ tin (1 lb.)
Vegetables, fresh	...	...	...	...	...	8 oz.
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	1 „
Peas, beans, or oatmeal	...	...	...	...	...	2 „

Prisoners of War Camp, Stratford, E.

No. 17.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 23.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at the Libury Hall German Farm Colony at Ware, in Hertfordshire, on the 29th May, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, June 22, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 17.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
June 20, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at the Libury Hall German Farm Colony at Ware, in Hertfordshire, on the 29th May, 1916.

Direction.—The colony is under the general supervision of the Home Office, and the commandant is Captain G. A. Merry.

Prisoners.—There were 188 civilians interned there, of whom 178 were German and 10 were Austrian. A few of the men, being of the original pensioners and colonists, have their wives and children with them in the camp.

Committees.—There were no committees.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There is sleeping accommodation for 244 interned men. There is one main building, two and a half stories high, about 30 feet by 40 feet, built of brick, and an annex building made of timber and galvanised iron, which was originally built for industrial, but is now used for living, purposes. There are four large dormitories, one of which is divided into cubicles, accommodating four men in each, for sixty-four men. The men have iron beds, mattresses, pillows, and as many blankets as they require.

In the main building there are two dining-rooms, smoking-room, reading-room, and a library containing over 1,000 books. In the annex there is a recreation room.

Besides these buildings there are eight cottages, with four rooms and two latrines in each.

The rooms were examined, and there was no criticism to be made.

Sanitary Arrangements.—The colony has its own water supply and sewage system, with a septic tank. There are ten earth-closets near the sleeping accommodations, with urinals, and eight others in the garden. There is one bath room, and also six shower-baths, four of which have hot and cold water. There are two ablution rooms in the main house, one with twenty-eight taps and hot and cold water, and the other with

sixteen taps; also an ablution-room in the annex with basins. There is an excellent laundry and drying-room, with a pump-house. The sanitary arrangements were examined and found neat and clean.

Infirmary.—There is a separate building for the hospital, containing fifty beds, which is in charge of an English doctor, assisted by a German nurse. On the day of my visit there were three in-patients and twelve out-patients. Two of the in-patients were suffering from colds and one from heart disease.

There is also a convalescent ward, a shower-bath, four latrines, and an ablution-room.

There have been seven deaths since the colony has been used as a camp, principally from old age.

Everything was examined, and found in good condition.

Kitchens.—In the kitchen there was one chef and one cook, both of whom were German. Most of the food is supplied by the work of the colony itself. A copy of a representative bill of fare is hereto annexed. (Exhibit A.*)

The kitchen accommodation includes a pantry, scullery, larder, and an emergency kitchen. There is also a bakehouse where they bake their own bread, and a dairy where they make their own butter.

Everything was examined and found satisfactory.

Work.—The men are not forced to work, but every opportunity is given them to employ their time. Wages are paid for work done on the farm, &c., as per schedule annexed. (Exhibit B.*)

Besides the usual housework, the men are occupied in tailoring, shoemaking, laundry-work, upholstery, basket-making, carpentry, baking, wood-chopping, jam-making, pickling, drying fruit, smith's work, painting, work on the poultry run, in the stables, in the gardens, and in looking after the sheep, pigs, and bees on the farm.

Those who are able are given every opportunity to work, and, if they do work, everything is done for them; but those who are strong enough and are not willing to work have to look after themselves. There are men and women from the surrounding country employed to assist in the work of the colony.

There is also a fire engine and fire apparatus.

Exercise.—There are about 50 acres of garden and about 11 to 12 acres of lawn and compound.

The men in this camp, being older men, do not need the same amount of exercise as do the younger men in some of the other camps, but good opportunities for being in the open air are given to all.

The camp is situated in a healthy district, with a pleasant view and good surroundings.

Wants by Camp.—The men had an opportunity to speak to me privately, but there were no complaints of any serious nature.

Observations.—The German farm colony was originally founded by Germans in England to provide temporary work, shelter, board, and lodging for German-speaking unemployed and destitute men of whatever creed, who were able to and willing to work, thus giving them a fresh start in life; to assist those anxious to return to their homes to earn sufficient money for that purpose; and to suppress, as far as possible, habitual begging, with its concomitant moral degradation. It is being conducted now as a continuance of the original German charity, and is supported partly by the Home Office, which pays a fixed sum per head per week for the board and lodging of the men interned there.

In addition to 10 pensioners, 19 colonists, and the staff of 9, formerly here, there are now 159 civilians interned here. The interned men are older men, most of whom have wives in England and do not wish to return to Germany.

There is no military guard, and the internal affairs of the camp are under the charge of Mr. Muller, who has been for some time managing director and secretary of the farm colony. The camp is almost entirely self-supporting, as the men can raise everything they need, except certain kinds of butcher's meat, which they have to buy.

All the prisoners seemed to be contented and in a good state of health, especially considering their advanced age. Copy of a report on the colony for 1914 is annexed. (Exhibit C.*)

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

* Sent to Berlin.

No. 18.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 4.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir Edward Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war detention camp at Shirley Rink, Southampton, on the 2nd June, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, July 3, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 18.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
June 24, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war detention camp at Shirley Rink, Southampton, on the 2nd June, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Southern District, and the commandant is Major R. J. Wilbraham.

Prisoners.—On the day of my visit there were 240 prisoners at the camp, all German. Of these 213 were military, 26 were naval, and there was 1 civilian.

Committees.—There were no committees.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change in the sleeping accommodations since the last visit, 2nd December, 1915. Each man is allowed a palliasse and as many blankets as he wishes. The non-commissioned officers have quarters set apart and separated from the men. I examined everything and found no ground for criticism.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There are twenty latrines and urinals, water-flushed, and twenty dry earth-closets for emergency use. There are six baths with hot and cold water, and an ablution room with eight taps. The sanitary arrangements were examined and found neat, clean, and odourless.

Infirmary.—There was one doctor in charge of the infirmary assisted by one German attendant. There were ten out-patients, suffering from colds, sprains, and other slight troubles. There were no in-patients. When there are any serious cases of illness, they are sent to the hospital in the town. The infirmary was inspected and found in good condition.

Kitchen.—The kitchen staff comprised two German cooks and an assistant. A copy of the scale of rations is hereto annexed (Exhibit A). The kitchen was examined and found neat and clean.

Work.—There is at this camp no organised system of work.

Exercise.—The prisoners are taken for route marches when possible, and there is about half an acre of compound where they may walk about at any time of the day. A wooden shelter has been built, where they may sit in the open air protected from the sun or the rain.

Wants by Camp.—There were no serious complaints from the prisoners. Those who had been passed by the commission to be sent to Switzerland were impatient at being kept at Southampton before making the journey.

Observations.—This camp is only used as a reception and distribution dépôt for the newly-arrived prisoners from France, or for those prisoners about to be examined for transfer to Switzerland. There are, therefore, no committees and no arrangements made for work, as the prisoners are only here for a short time.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

Exhibit A.—*Amended Scale of Rations for Prisoners of War.*

Bread	...	...	...	...	1½ lb.
(Flour in lieu of bread, $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. flour for 1 oz. bread.)					
Meat, fresh or frozen	...	...	...	...	8 oz.
or					
„ pressed	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ ration.
Tea...	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
or					
Coffee	...	...	...	...	1 „
Salt	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ „
Sugar	...	...	...	...	2 „
Milk, condensed	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{20}$ tin (1 lb.)
Vegetables, fresh	...	...	...	...	8 oz.
Pepper	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ „
Peas, beans, or oatmeal	...	...	...	...	2 „
Margarine	...	...	...	...	1 „

No. 19.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 4.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war detention camp for officers at Bevois Mount, Southampton, on the 2nd June, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of this Embassy.

American Embassy, London, July 3, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 19.

*Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.**American Embassy, London (German Division),
June 26, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war detention camp for officers at Bevois Mount, Southampton, on the 2nd June, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the same direction as is Shirley Rink detention camp, being under the general supervision of the Commander of the Southern District, and the commandant being Major R. J. Wilbraham.

Prisoners.—There were sixteen officers detained there, fifteen being military and one naval, all of whom were German. These officers were waited upon by six servants, making a total of twenty-two persons at the camp.

Committees.—There were no committees at this camp.

Sleeping Accommodations.—A single room is provided for a man who is ill, and he has a special orderly to look after him. Other rooms accommodate from ten to twelve men in each, but owing to the small number of prisoners now detained, there were not more than four men in any room. The rooms were examined and found in excellent condition.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There were three latrines for the officers and one for the servants. Four baths were provided, with hot and cold water. These were all examined and found neat, clean, and odourless.

Infirmary.—One doctor, assisted by a German Red Cross orderly, was in charge of the infirmary. There were no in-patients, but all the officers attended as out-patients, as they were all recovering from wounds and illness. The infirmary was inspected, and it was found that there was no criticism to be made.

Kitchen.—The kitchen is run by a chef, assisted by five other servants. One of the officer prisoners, acting as mess-president, supervises the mess, which is run in the same way as an English officers' mess is run, and the same rations are allowed, which

the prisoners may supplement as they please. The kitchen was examined and found spotlessly clean.

Work.—There is no organised work done at this camp, since, like Shirley Rink, Bevois Mount is only a receiving dépôt.

Exercise.—Bevois Mount is surrounded by $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres of garden, in which groups of officers were sitting in large easy chairs.

Wants by Camp.—There were no serious complaints. The interned officers thought they should be sent to Switzerland as soon as possible, and said that they had already been detained several days. The only other complaint was that they were obliged to be in the building at night for a length of time which in these short nights seemed irksome. I took this matter up with the commandant, who assured me that they should have permission to spend one hour more a day in the open air.

Observations.—This camp is an old English manor house, situated in a beautiful garden with flowers and fine trees. The house itself is in excellent condition and seemed very comfortable. It is only used as a place where officers are taken when first brought to England and are awaiting transfer to internment camps, or for those who have been sent here for transfer to Switzerland.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché*.

No. 20.

. *Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.*—(Received July 4.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war camp at Dorchester, Dorset, on the 1st June, 1916, which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, July 3, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 20.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
June 26, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Dorchester, Dorset, on the 1st June, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Southern District, and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. Bulkeley, D.S.O.

Prisoners.—There were 1,779 men interned at this camp, all of whom were German. Of these, 1,771 were military, 7 were naval, and there was 1 civilian.

Committees.—Besides the usual "Lowry" and "Markel" committees, there is a Feldwebel committee, which looks after the Feldwebels' mess; a theatrical committee, a choral committee, and a band committee; a sports committee for football and another for hockey, and an athletic committee; a school committee, which arranges all educational classes; a Y.M.C.A. committee; and a food committee, which controls the cooking and extra messing. All these committees are organised and run by the prisoners themselves.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change in the sleeping accommodations since the last report was made, but as the number of the prisoners is much less than it was at that time, there is much more room, and several of the barracks are not now in use at all. The rooms were examined and found neat, clean, and well-ventilated.

Sanitary Arrangements.—In addition to the sanitary arrangements previously mentioned, a new drying-room, which is not yet finished, and two new washrooms have been installed. There are now fifty-five excellent baths, besides eight footbaths. Separate baths are set aside for the use of the Feldwebel. Everything was examined and found neat, clean, and odourless.

Infirmery.—There are two doctors in charge of the hospital, assisted by five British and four German attendants. On the day of my visit there were thirteen

in-patients and sixty out-patients. Of the thirteen in-patients, only five were in bed, and there were no serious cases. As stated in the last report, all serious cases are sent to the county hospital, where there were at the time of my visit two patients, one of whom was suffering from appendicitis.

There is an isolation ward in a separate building which was empty. The wards and dispensary and the dressing-rooms, &c., were examined and found in excellent condition.

Kitchens.—Since the last visit was made, eight new boilers have been installed in the cookhouses, which have been enlarged. There are now five kitchens, four for the men and one for the Feldwebel, which are in the charge of twenty-five German cooks. The daily scale of rations is hereto annexed. (Exhibit A.)* The quality of the food is the same as that supplied to the British troops, and, in addition to these rations, between 60*l.* and 70*l.* is expended per month on extra articles of food, which is paid for from the rebate of the canteen fund.

All the kitchens and appurtenances were examined, and it was found that there was no criticism to be made.

Work.—The occupations of the interned men at this camp are many and varied. A great many are engaged in making mail-bags, for which the sum of 6*d.* is paid for each bag made. Up to the date of my visit 37,000 bags had been made and paid for. About 100 prisoners are engaged in making roads, laying drains, building huts, &c., which is paid for at authorised rates. Besides these, there are receiving pay parties working for civilian firms, &c.; a few employed in weighing coal, others working at sewerage farms, saw-mills, gasworks, on gardens—100 prisoners have just completed planting fifty-five acres of land with potatoes—at picking flints, bagging chaff, quarries, agricultural work, and tar-spraying roads. Then there is the usual fatigue work about the camp to be done, such as cleaning the latrines, &c.

There are new gardens for the men, which they have planted with flowers and vegetables. A large recreation hut has been established in No. II Camp for the use of all the prisoners, which is used in the daytime for educational classes and in the evenings as a theatre or for concerts and other entertainments. Altogether there are very few idle men, which, in the main, accounts for the healthy, cheerful, and contented aspect of the whole camp, which is very striking.

Exercise.—From 7 A.M. until 10 P.M. all the prisoners may exercise in any part of the two camps and barracks, an area of about 25 acres. The recreation field, which now covers an area of over 9 acres, is open for two or three hours daily, weather permitting, where they play all open-air games. There is a small gymnasium fitted with the usual gymnastic fixtures. The prisoners are also taken for walks in the surrounding country under a guard.

Wants by Camp.—Opportunity was given to the men to talk to me in private, but few availed themselves of it. There were no serious complaints of any kind made. A few prisoners asked for repatriation, particularly eleven men who had been sent here from South-West Africa and a small number of others who claimed to belong to the Red Cross Corps. All these cases were taken up with the commandant, who assured me that they should have every attention.

I had a good opportunity to talk with one of the Jägers interned here, and also an Officierstellvertreter, both of whom spoke to me quite frankly of the conditions in the camp.

Observations.—Everything in this camp was found in excellent condition, and the relations between the interned men and the commandant seemed most cordial.

On the 5th April, 1915, 750 men were sent from here to Rouen, France, of whom 30 have returned as not being in fit physical condition for the work there. On the 10th May, 1916, 750 more men were sent. Those who have returned seemed glad to be back at the camp.

A new canteen has been opened, which gives additional advantages for any purchases the prisoners may wish to make.

Since the last visit was made, the American Y.M.C.A. has established a large hut, which is used for religious purposes, and at other times for reading and writing, &c.

There were eight cells which, though empty, were examined and found satisfactory.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché.*

* Sent to Berlin.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey—(Received July 4.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report which has been made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal and Mr. W. H. Buckler, of the staff of this Embassy, covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Donington Hall, Derbyshire, on the 9th June, 1916.

American Embassy, London, July 3, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 21.

Messrs. Beal and Buckler to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
June 24, 1916.*

Sir,

WE have the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Donington Hall, Derbyshire, on the 9th June, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Northern District and the commandant is Colonel F. S. Picott.

Prisoners.—There were interned here on the day of our visit 102 military officers, 39 naval officers, 50 military orderlies and 1 naval orderly, and 3 civilians, of whom 98 military officers and 38 naval officers were German, 4 military officers were Austrian, and 1 naval officer was a Turk. The civilians and orderlies were German.

Committees.—The committees are all controlled by the prisoners themselves. There is a mess and canteen committee, a sports committee, a location committee, which arranges in which rooms the officers are quartered, and an amusement committee.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change in the sleeping accommodations since the last visit, except that, owing to the smaller number of men, there is now more room than before. The bed and sitting rooms were examined and found neat and clean.

Sanitary Arrangements.—The sanitary arrangements are the same as those mentioned in the last report, with the addition of three new shower-baths, with hot and cold water, which are being installed for the use of the interned soldier servants. Everything was examined and found neat and clean.

Infirmary.—The hospital is in the charge of one doctor, assisted by two British R.A.M.C. orderlies, and one German orderly. There has been no change in the hospital arrangements since the last report. There were six out-patients, who were suffering chiefly from sprains received during exercise, and no in-patients. There have been no deaths at this camp. The hospital was inspected, and it was found that there was no criticism to be made.

Kitchen.—The kitchen staff consists of two English cooks and eight German cooks. The interned officers run their own mess in the same way as an English officers' mess is run. For the regular bill of fare for three meals the officers pay 2s. 7d. a day, which they supplement as they wish from the canteen.

Work.—The orderlies do all the fatigue work of the officers, and generally look after them. However, besides the fatigue work, two men act as shoemakers and two men act as tailors, for repairs, &c., and one man has a barber's shop.

Exercise.—Two new lawn tennis courts have been laid out, which give the interned men three courts in all. A new skittles alley has been made, which the servants are allowed to use for two hours each afternoon. The opportunities for exercise mentioned in the last report are in constant use. On the exercise ground hockey and football are played on alternate days. The system of taking walks in the surrounding country has lately been inaugurated, and on every fine day about twenty-five officers go for a walk, lasting from one to two hours, accompanied by an officer and an orderly of the guard. On the day of our visit one of us went out with the walking party and enjoyed a pleasant walk through beautiful country.

Wants by Camp.—No complaints of any consequence were made by the interned men. We had a talk with Captain Ross, the senior officer, and he had no complaint to make.

Observations.—The men seemed much happier and more contented than at the time of our last visit. The new system of walks was proving a great pleasure and satisfaction to them. They looked well and the relations between the interned officers and the guard seemed most cordial. There seemed an air of prosperity among them, and we were told that one man out of his pay of 4s. a day had been able to save 8l. in six months. There was no one in cells.

We have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL.
W. H. BUCKLER.

No. 22.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 4.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the Lower Southern Hospital for wounded prisoners of war at Dartford, Kent, which was made by Mr. Boylston A. Beal, of the staff of the German Division of the Embassy, on the 26th June, 1916.

American Embassy, London, July 3, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 22.

Mr. Beal to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
June 29, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the Lower Southern Hospital for wounded prisoners of war at Dartford, Kent, on the 26th June, 1916.

Direction.—The hospital is under the supervision of the Commander of the Eastern District and the commandant is Lieutenant-Colonel R. P. Bond, R.A.M.C.

Prisoners.—There were 198 prisoner of war patients in the hospital on the day of my visit, of whom 7 were military officers, 143 soldiers, 6 sailors, and 42 were civilians. Of these 193 were German, 4 were Austrian, and there was 1 Turk.

Committees.—There were no committees, but, as stated in the last report of the visit of the 16th February, 1916, there were ward captains in the men's wards.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change in the sleeping accommodations since the last report. These were examined but offered no ground for criticism.

Sanitary Arrangements.—There has been no change in the sanitary arrangements since the last report. They were examined and found in good condition.

Infirmaries.—There has been no change in the hospital arrangements since the last visit. There were seven doctors in charge assisted by twenty-six nurses and forty-four British R.A.M.C. orderlies.

There have been sixteen deaths among the German prisoners of war since the opening of the hospital to them on the 11th September, 1915, the principal causes being heart disease, lung trouble, or wounds.

The wards were inspected and found clean, bright, and airy.

Kitchens.—There has been no change in the kitchen arrangements since the last visit. They were examined and found neat and clean. There were twelve cooks in charge, all of whom were English.

The food is of excellent quality, comprising meat and fresh vegetables and simple pudding, &c. Special food is also ordered for cases of a serious nature. A copy of the representative diet sheets is attached to this report. (Exhibit A.)*

Exercise.—As mentioned in the last report, there is a dry path of about 200 yards long, where invalid prisoners may walk, and a field of about 2 to 3 acres, where convalescents may exercise in fine weather.

* Sent to Berlin.

Wants by Camp.—There were no complaints of any moment. Several of the invalids asked if they might be repatriated or sent to Switzerland, all of whose cases have been submitted to the competent authorities.

Observations.—The general tone of the hospital seemed to be much happier than at the time of my last visit. Many of the men have already been sent to Switzerland, and on the day of my visit there were three officers and thirty-seven men awaiting their transfer there.

Seventy-one men suffering from wounds had lately come from France and expressed themselves as well satisfied with their conditions.

I had good opportunities to talk with the invalids, and they told me that they were very comfortable and had nothing of which to complain.

I have, &c.

BOYLSTON A. BEAL, *Special Attaché*.

No. 23.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 13.)

The American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith, for Sir E. Grey's information, copy of a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Oldcastle, county Meath, Ireland, on the 10th June, 1916, which has been made by Mr. E. G. Lowry, in charge of the German Division of the Embassy.

American Embassy, London, July 10, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 23.

Mr. Lowry to Mr. Page.

*American Embassy, London (German Division),
July 8, 1916.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you herewith a report covering a visit of inspection to the prisoners of war internment camp at Oldcastle, county Meath, Ireland, on the 10th June, 1916.

Direction.—The camp is under the general supervision of the Commander of the Western District, and the commandant is Major R. Johnston.

Prisoners.—There were 579 prisoners at this camp, all of whom were civilians with the exception of one naval sailor. Of these, 468 were German, 110 were Austrian, and there was one of other nationality.

Committees.—There were the usual "Lowry" and "Markel" committees, and an Austrian relief committee in both "A" and "B" blocks. Besides these there was a handicraft committee and a bakery committee. All the committees were organised and run by the prisoners themselves.

Sleeping Accommodations.—There has been no change in the sleeping accommodations since the last visit in June 1915. As stated then, the camp is divided into two blocks, known as "A" block and "B" block. Most of the rooms have wooden, but some have stone floors, and they are heated with stoves and lighted with oil lamps.

There are from one to thirty men in a room, each of whom has a regulation camp bed, raised from the floor, a palliasso, and three blankets.

All the rooms were fresh and spotlessly clean. The men had made them bright with flowers, and some of them had singing birds in cages hanging in the windows. On the walls there were pictures, and portraits of the German Emperor, German generals, the King of Saxony, and many photographs.

Ships' captains and ships' officers have separate rooms and a separate mess.

Sanitary Arrangements.—As mentioned in the last report, the prisoners are provided with stationary bath-tubs, having hot and cold water. There are wash-houses, where the prisoners wash their clothes, &c., and a new drying-room has been built, but is not yet completed. Special taps are provided with filtered water for drinking purposes.

There are urinals in each compound. The latrines are on the pail and dry earth system. All the sanitary arrangements were examined, and found adequate and clean.

Infirmery.—The hospital is in a detached building, having a ward for infectious cases and a special ward for fever cases. There is one doctor in charge, assisted by one British and one German attendant.

The best evidence of the general health of the camp is that there were no men in hospital at the time of my visit last year, and that there were no sick on this inspection. Also no prisoners have died during the year. The empty hospital was inspected and found bright, neat, and clean.

Since the last visit a bakery has been established, where the prisoners bake their own bread. In the bakery there are three bakers and three large ovens. If there is any flour left over after baking the bread, it is made into cakes, &c., such as the prisoners like.

The kitchen arrangements were examined and found in excellent condition. There were twelve German cooks in charge of the cooking of the food, which is the usual dietary, as prescribed to other camps. The canteen seemed well stocked, and there were no complaints.

Work.—The organisation of work among the prisoners themselves has somewhat improved since the last visit was made. There are tailoring and bootmaking and repairing shops, and other prisoners are engaged in wood-carving, toy-making, and the study of languages.

Two new recreation huts have been built since the last inspection, where the prisoners give concerts and dramatic performances. There are now two orchestras at the camp.

Gardens have been allotted to those who want them, where the prisoners grow flowers and vegetables.

Exercise.—Since the last visit a new playing field of about 4 acres has been added to the exercising ground about the camp, where the prisoners were playing football at the time of my inspection. The compounds and playing fields were dry, and there was no mud.

Wants by Camp.—A number of matters relating to the routine of the camp were brought up for consideration, including the use of exercise grounds, parcels, lost luggage, &c., and were all taken up with the commandant, who said they would be given immediate attention. None of these matters was serious.

Observations.—The prisoners in this camp are fairly equally divided between civilians who were living in Ireland at the outbreak of the war and merchant sailors who were taken off ships in Irish ports. They keep their rooms and the compounds clean, and appear to be, on the whole, contented.

I have, &c.

EDWARD G. LOWRY.

Special Attaché in charge of the German Division.

OCT 25 1917

MISCELLANEOUS. No. 30 (1916).

REPORTS of Visits of Inspection made by Officials
of the United States Embassy to various Intern-
ment Camps in the United Kingdom.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
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